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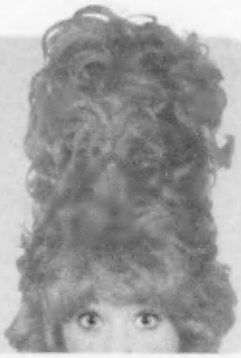

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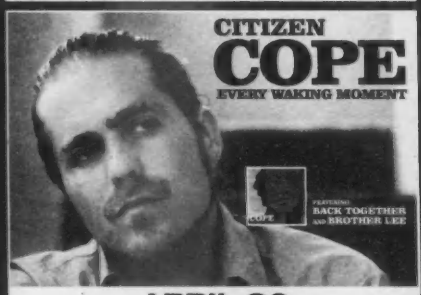

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Editorial

The way we do things may be as important as what we do.

What do you think? Send an e-mail to letters@phx.com

Beacon Hill flux

Travaglini exits, Murray ascends, Patrick innovates

"STYLE," ACCORDING TO ALFRED NORTH WHITEHEAD, "IS THE ULTIMATE MORALITY of the mind." In other words, the way we do things may be as important as what we do. Method reveals much. As we try to determine heads from tails during this time of State House transition, it is worth keeping this in mind.

Robert Travaglini's departure as Senate president was so long rumored, that when it came it was anticlimactic. Affection for him in the Senate was real, which is a tribute to his personal warmth. And as Senate president, he never lost sight of the grassroots realities of his chamber members. He understood what senators needed to do to please their constituents. And even if he would not allow a pet piece of legislation to advance, he would allow the hearing to be held. Trav, as he is known to most, was a very effective stage manager. He seemed to prefer the shadows, not the spotlight. When the Democrats squashed then-governor Romney's plan to gain seats in the Senate, it was Trav who quietly raised the money and deployed his people to work in the districts.

Travaglini was firmly opposed to gay marriage, but cloaked his opposition by favoring civil unions, which were no longer the issue. He let a handful of health providers and insurers write his precious health-care-reform bill. And befitting the baronial style of Senate presidents, he never seemed interested in cleaning up waste and curbing cronyism. Like so many in the legislature, fine-tuning the status quo was his instinct. That frame of legislative mind, it is not unreasonable to suggest, is a big reason our economy is not more robust. The process of leaving his post was so prolonged that it almost came to resemble a silent auction, the result of which would be to determine his market value in the private sector.

The new Senate president, Therese Murray, is — by progressive standards — solid on a host of important issues: same-sex marriage, welfare, child services, elder care, and affordable housing. Murray is among the most knowledgeable on Beacon Hill about the details of the state budget.

She has a reputation for being tough and retaliatory to the point of being vengeful. One could fairly argue that this is part of a gender-based perception problem, or a function of playing "bad cop" to Travaglini's "good cop." Like Trav, she has shown no interest in changing the use of patronage, earmarks, or other aspects of state government that the public presumably elected Deval Patrick to reform. The way she defanged the Inspector General's potentially reputation-damaging investigation into the questionable awarding of $11 million worth of tourism business suggests that while she will make history as the first woman to hold the Senate presidency, her political style will be less than revolutionary. There should be little doubt, however, that having broken through the glass ceiling of the state's political hierarchy, she will bring a different personal perspective to the Senate president's office.

PATRICK'S TECH GAMBIT

Governor Deval Patrick's recently inaugurated Web-based citizen-involvement project is, by Beacon Hill standards, revolutionary. While technology has transformed business and private lives, Beacon Hill has remained curiously unaffected, snug and complacent in a cocoon of stasis.

Astute and technology-savvy local bloggers, including the trio of activists at Blue Mass Group, Northeastern's Dan Kennedy, WBZ's Jon Keller, and the *Phoenix*'s David S. Bernstein (read this editorial at thePhoenix.com for hyperlinks) all have differing views about what Governor Patrick's initiative will mean and how it should be refined.

In our view, it is a welcome innovation. It's also classic Deval: innovative, but less than perfectly executed. Secretary of State William Galvin performed a valuable public service by pointing out that the state's voter rolls face potential corruption as a result of Team Patrick's sloppy execution — that is, initially publishing citizens' home addresses. Dan Kennedy is particularly good on this point.

The inadequacies will be addressed, and already the potential for this powerful tool to be hijacked and co-opted by special pleaders and special interests is being realized. But democracy is, by its very nature, an untidy enterprise. If the governor's scheme gives him leverage to do what he was elected to do, the state legislature may not like it, but we are betting that voters will. ⊙

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Letters

Pride of the Irish

I have a short addendum to Mike Miliard's excellent piece on current trends in the Irish and Irish-American communities of Boston ("Eire Apparent," News and Features, March 16). Over the past 10 years, I have fielded hundreds of fundraising pledge calls during the Saturday-evening "Celtic Twilight" broadcast at WUMB. One constant I've found is that most of the fervent supporters of "Celtic Twilight" have surnames that suggest little or no Irish lineage.

This is a remarkable turnabout from the early '50s, when I became captivated by the old-time instrumentals and ballads from Ireland that were broadcast nightly on Boston's old "Irish Hour" radio program. I kept this particular listening preference a closely guarded secret from schoolmates and neighbors since I was living in what was then a very WASPish part of Newton, where most things Irish were viewed with subtle displeasure at best. I find it pleasantly ironic that at least some of the descendents of those that once scorned traditional Irish music and culture in Boston may now be among its most enthusiastic adherents.

Bob Burke
Newton Highlands

Write us
Letters may be mailed to the *Boston Phoenix*, 126 Brookline Avenue, Boston, MA 02215; faxed to 617.859.8201; or e-mailed to letters@phx.com or to staff writers' e-mail addresses (e-mailed letters must include a telephone number for verification and a hometown). All letters are subject to editing for considerations of space, fairness, and clarity.

DEFENDING THE DIVAS

As usual, Madge fans fly off the handle at anyone who dares question her so-called "reign" (see "Dancing Queen," Music, March 23). For those who clearly have no idea of the popularity of either Madonna or Kylie Minogue throughout the world, both are often overhyped, but both are incredibly popular in their own way. Kylie happens to be massively popular, except in America, with record chart runs in Europe, Asia, and Australasia. She is the 25th most successful recording artist of all time, selling in excess of 70 to 80 million records. She might be sniffed at by some American singing-star fans, but if you were to strip away American stars' US sales, many would be left wanting around the rest of the globe. The US is but one country, and to achieve success in one country — however large — is in no way comparable to achieving success across continents.

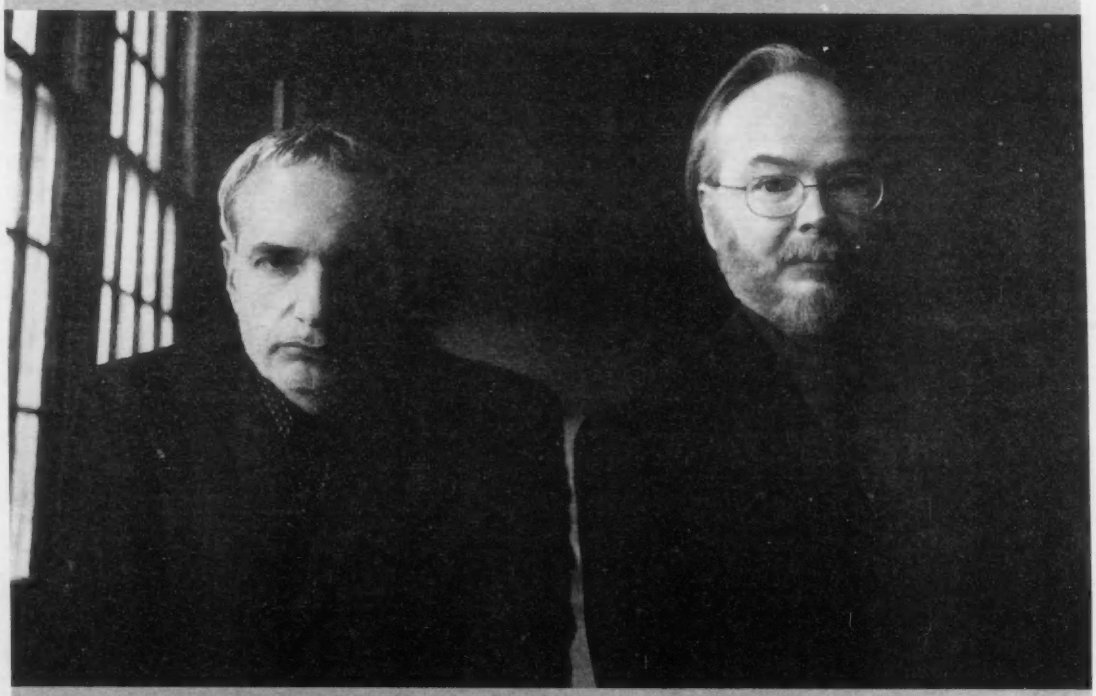
It's fairly easy to sell millions in the US, simply because of its population size and consumerist ways. But in Europe we pay good money to actually see and hear singers, and Kylie has more record-breaking arena tours under her belt in the UK, Asia, and Australia than Madonna has. You don't have to like her, and you don't have to believe that she is the best singer in the world, but you cannot take away her 20-year career and massive cross-cultural appeal. I wouldn't discount anything that Madonna has achieved either, but even she has struggled recently to achieve the levels of fame and success she enjoyed in her early career. At least Kylie didn't resort to standing completely naked in the middle of a busy street in order to justify her existence in some highbrow intellectual way.

JAMES RILEY
LEEDS, ENGLAND

Kylie doesn't make infectious pop. Most of her songs are forgettable, obviously. Madge made it in Europe, Australia, Asia, and the biggest market of all — the USA. Kylie's name and her limited oeuvre do not ring a bell in Asia and the US, unlike Madonna. Also, Madonna isn't just a dance artist; she can dig R&B, jazz, and she's a great balladeer — take "Crazy For You," "Take a Bow," and "You Must Love Me," to name a few. Watch out for her new album and watch how Kylie and the rest of your dance divettes follow her. "Madonna is the speedboat and the rest are just the GoGo's on water skis." - Liz Phair. I can see a showgirl trying hard to make just one top-10 US single every decade on those skis.

RONALD E. RODRIGUEZ
NEW YORK

Steely Dan



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This Just In_

By the Numbers

2

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF US ATTORNEYS, OUT OF 486, WHO LEFT THEIR JOBS UNWILLINGLY OVER THE 25-YEAR PERIOD FROM 1981 TO 2006.

20

APPROXIMATE PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE IN THE US WHO ARE FUNCTIONALLY ILLITERATE.

29

PERCENTAGE OF US HOUSEHOLDS WHO DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS AND DO NOT INTEND TO SUBSCRIBE WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR.

Dept. of Old Ideas

HOLLYWOOD SQUARE

PHOTO: ISTOCK. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY K BANKS

First Al Gore, now Rick Santorum. According to Allentown, Pennsylvania's *Morning Call*, Santorum, the soundly conservative, roundly defeated ex-Senator, is "planning two film projects, in part to counter what he characterized as the stream of left-wing documentaries coming from Hollywood and independent filmmakers."

One of the as-yet-unfunded films seeks to "explore the relationship between radical Islam and radical leftists," and another is slated to be an epic masterwork that will "change the culture of America." (*Rebirth of a Nation*?) But what else might the great *auteur* have up his sleeve to rival *An Inconvenient Truth*?

AN UNFORTUNATE MALFUNCTION. A hard-hitting documentary that gets to the bottom of widespread voting-machine breakdowns across Pennsylvania in 2006. How else to explain a nearly 20-point defeat at the hands of Bob Casey Jr. — statistically the worst loss ever for an incumbent Republican senator in that state? And Casey barely lifted a finger on his own behalf.

A LOGICAL CORRELATION. This time, the devout Catholic takes on the Boston Archdiocese, doggedly exposing how it's afflicted at every level by the moral relativism running rampant in this "seat of academic, political, and cultural liberalism." Explains Santorum: "Priests, like all of us, are affected by culture. When the culture is sick, every element in it becomes infected."

AN INCONTROVERTIBLE FACT. To the battleground where science and religion clash. This film, like Gore's, uses provocative slides and PowerPoint presentations to tell a story some might not want to hear. Advancing the concept of intelligent design, Santorum argues that even pests like mosquitoes, gays, and Mexicans cannot be blamed on evolutionary flukes, but were in fact created by God.

A REGRETTABLE MISSTATEMENT. Here, Santorum revisits his June 2006 assertion that weapons of mass destruction had been unearthed in Iraq. This despite the fact that the cache of chemical weapons had been discovered two years prior, and found to be non-current.

A TRUTH STRANGER THAN FICTION. In this big-budget collaboration with *Lord of the Rings* director Peter Jackson, Santorum expounds on his fantastical defense of the Iraq misadventure: "As the hobbits are going up Mount Doom, the Eye of Mordor is being drawn somewhere else. It's being drawn to Iraq and it's not being drawn to the US. You know what? I want to keep it on Iraq. I don't want the Eye to come back here to the United States."

A DISOBEDIENT PET. In this CGI/live-action romp (think *Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties*), Santorum conjures up a fun twist on his conflation of gay marriage with "man on dog" sex. Bring the whole family!

AN INOPPORTUNE COINAGE. Santorum goes on the warparth, adopting Michael Moore–style ambush tactics to confront sex columnist Dan Savage for sullying his family name. A sticky situation ensues.

_Mike Miliard

Reality Check _BY DAVID SIPRESS

You look really sexy when I'm criticizing you.

Student Loan Scandal

Is your college steering you in the wrong direction?

Six Massachusetts colleges find themselves embroiled in an unfolding student-loan scandal of unknown scope and consequences. The looming questions right now: are students getting screwed, and will anybody stop it?

New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo announced last Thursday that he plans to file a lawsuit against Education Finance Partners (EFP), a San Francisco–based lender. According to Cuomo, EFP has been paying as many as 60 schools — including Boston University and five others schools in Massachusetts — a percentage of all loans the institution steers into EFP's hands.

Student-loan companies and colleges call this arrangement "revenue sharing." Cuomo calls it a "kickback scheme."

Cuomo's complaint suggests that instead of helping students find the best loan rates, colleges would recommend "preferred lenders" who would then pay the schools.

For instance, EFP gives BU at least .25 percent of the value of all loans its students take with the company, the allegation charges. Becker College, Berklee College of Music, Bridgewater State College, Emerson College, and Mount Holyoke College had similar arrangements, according to Cuomo's office.

That adds up to only a few thousand dollars or less each year for the school, which hardly seems like a big enough sum to seduce a large institution — but then again, if it isn't a worthwhile incentive, why would the lender offer it at all?

Cuomo intends to charge EFP for deceptive business practices, because students were not told of the school's incentives. The AG's office has also sent letters of concern to colleges allegedly involved in such arrangements. And, it has warned that the EFP suit is only the first being filed in an ongoing "nationwide investigation into the college loan industry."

Which begs two questions: just how many shenanigans such as this have been going on, and are students and former students paying more today after being steered to less-advantageous loans?

New York's aggressive action, and the threat of liability in court, could help drive the industry to voluntarily improve its practices. It might also provide political impetus for a bill that Massachusetts senator Ted Kennedy filed two months ago, dubbed the Student Borrower Bill of Rights, which would require disclosure of relationships between schools and lenders, and also ban lenders from giving gifts to college employees. Or at least that's what a Kennedy spokesperson hopes.

Unfortunately, Cuomo — much in the style of his predecessor, now-governor Eliot Spitzer — did not involve other states in his investigation; even such an obvious partner as Martha Coakley in nearby, college-rich Massachusetts was left out. As a result, Cuomo's actions have drawn little attention.

_David S. Bernstein

To learn more about the Student Borrower Bill of Rights, read this item on thePhoenix.com.

'ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, HILLARY CLINTON . . . AND BILL CLINTON . . . USED THEIR INFLUENCE AND POSITION WITH FEDERAL AUTHORITIES IN NEW YORK TO FURTHER THIS SCHEME.'

_From Jared Paul Smith's New York Supreme Court civil complaint against billionaire Ronald Burkle, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, former president Bill Clinton, and others, filed March 21, 2007

Notes on a Scandal

Could a botched sting operation compromise Hillary Clinton's presidential hopes?

The saga of gossip columnist Jared Paul Stern has entered a new phase, one that could end up generating both the biggest political *and* the biggest media story of the year. In a civil complaint filed with the New York Supreme Court last week, the former *New York Post* freelancer — who was accused of extortion by California supermarket magnate Ronald Burkle but never charged with any crime — struck back with several charges of his own, including libel and criminal conspiracy. His targets? Burkle, of course; two Burkle associates specializing in security and public relations; the *New York Daily News*; William Sherman, who wrote about the Burkle-Stern contretemps for the *Daily News*; and — wait for it — both Bill and Hillary Clinton.

First, a quick refresher. In April 2006, Burkle accused Stern of demanding $100,000 (plus $10,000 monthly for a year) to forestall negative coverage on the Post's Page Six. This claim hinged, apparently, on three hours of videotape that spanned two separate meetings between the two men (roughly six minutes of which was leaked to the *New York Times*). Problem was, while Stern urged Burkle to employ him as a media consultant in those meetings — and also suggested an investment in his clothing line, Skull & Bones by Jared Paul Stern — he didn't actually threaten any repercussions if this didn't occur. That didn't keep the press from running with the story, however: the *New York Times*, for example, offered a credulous front-page, above-the-fold accounting of Burkle's claims on April 8, 2006 (see "Sleazy? Yes. Criminal? Probably not," News and Features, April 13, 2006).

One needn't view Stern as an angel of virtue to recognize — as the feds apparently did when they dropped the case against him — that he was likely the victim of a set-up. Some highlights from his recently filed complaint (none of which, one must remember, have yet been proven).

- Burkle allegedly "socializes with celebrities and carries on sexual liaisons with fashion models" in a way that could put him at cross purposes with the authorities. (p 2)
- Frank Renzi, who allegedly helped Burkle coordinate his meetings with Stern, is an "ex-Secret Service agent formerly in the employ of Bill Clinton and [now] head of security for Burkle's investment firm Yucaipa Cos.," where Clinton is chief marketing officer. (pp 2, 15)
- Both Hillary and Bill allegedly "used their influence and position with federal authorities in New York to further [Burkle's] scheme" — *i.e.*, Burkle's successful attempt to convince federal authorities to investigate his allegations. (p 4)
- "Burkle and Bill Clinton spend upwards of 500 hours a year together, more time than Clinton spends with his wife. Bill Clinton frequently flies on Burkle's jet and stays at his houses in the company of young females procured by the billionaire." (p 16)
- Finally, the motive — and it's a biggie: by discrediting Stern, Burkle and the Clintons allegedly "hoped to divert and intimidate journalists who might attempt to report on their illegal activity or publish embarrassing revelations of Burkle and Bill Clinton's sexual misconduct, including Clinton's extramarital affairs facilitated by Burkle . . . and even more importantly dissuade negative coverage of the numerous scandals that have been attributed and which will undoubtedly be uncovered about Hillary Clinton as she runs for the presidency in 2008." (p 14)
- ¡While they were at it, the Clintons also wanted to destroy the Post. (p 16)

Die-hard Clinton defenders will surely note that Stern's attorney, Larry Klayman, is a conservative activist who, according to the *Washington Post*, made his name largely by filing multiple anti-Clinton release-of-information lawsuits (regarding persons such as Vince Foster, Ron Brown, Kathleen Willey, Gennifer Flowers, and Janet Reno) as the founder of Judicial Watch.

Then again, as the Monica Lewinsky affair demonstrated all too painfully, Clinton has a history of giving in to his troublesome appetites, political consequences be damned. If Klayman gets subpoena power and starts dragging new information about Bill into the light of day, Hillary's presidential campaign could take a serious hit. (For his part, Stern tells the *Phoenix* that other aspects of Klayman's background — *e.g.*, suing Halliburton on behalf of shareholders and naming vice-president and ex-Halliburton CEO Dick Cheney in the complaint — show he's more than a partisan hack.)

Thanks to the earlier credulity of the *Times*, the *Daily News*, and the *Wall Street Journal* (which ran an op-ed by Burkle on the purported scandal on April 12, 2006) — and the general lack of reportorial follow-up when Stern wasn't charged — the New York media probably won't come out of this looking great, either. These outlets might be disinclined to give too much play to a case that puts their own journalism in an unflattering light, especially if details of their own sausage-making process start to emerge. That certainly seems to be the case so far: while the *Times* devoted a great deal of ink to Burkle's charges, the paper barely took note of Stern's new lawsuit, reporting it in a 142-word Associated Press brief that ignored the *Times*' previous reporting on the subject. (That's 142 more words than the *Daily News* gave it.)

Given Hillary's prominence in the front-loaded 2008 presidential race, though, it won't be possible to run away from this story for long. There will, of course, be moves to dismiss this suit. But if these efforts fail, look for a settlement — which could bind all parties to silence — before the deposition process becomes aggressive. Even if a settlement is reached, an outcome predicted by attorney and *Phoenix* "Freedom Watch" columnist Harvey Silverglate, the public could be privy to revelations that seriously damage Hillary Clinton's campaign.

Hoping for a sneak preview of revelations to come, the *Phoenix* asked Stern to elaborate on his contention that his run-in with Burkle was part of a bigger Clintonian plot aimed at silencing the media by making him a cautionary example. For now, though, he's not talking. "As far as any specific allegations, on that score, I think I have to let the complaint speak for itself," Stern replied.

_Adam Reilly and Harvey Silverglate

To read Stern's civil complaint in full, go to the Phoenix.com.

REUTERS

BUDDY SYSTEM Jared Paul Stern alleges that he was set up by billionaire Ron Burkle (above right) to ward the press away from romps he arranged for his pal Bill Clinton.

_ BY MATT TAIBBI

Sports Blotter

OUR FIRST JUSTIN MILLER AWARD!

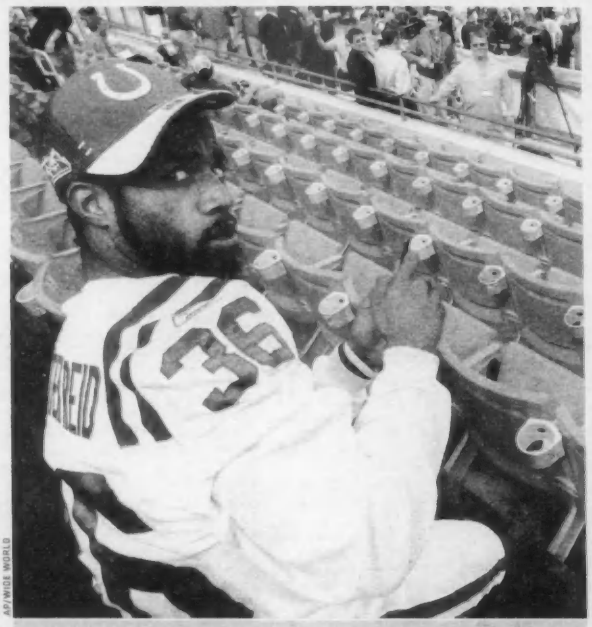
This is the witching hour, folks — the sports-crime equivalent of the month before an armed robber's parole hearing. Can he keep from shanking his roommate long enough to present a clean sheet? Or will temptation win out? It's a dramatic race against time in the American penal system and the NFL draft.

About this time every year, NFL scouts descend upon big-college towns, doling out cash and favors to anyone who might have incriminating information about major NFL draft prospects. Heard something about a methed-out tight end who punched a Sonic roller-waitress in the eye? Did you date a return specialist with 4.3 speed who couldn't get it up without weed? Anything you got, we're interested. If we're about to spend about 10 million bucks on a half-dozen or so kids from around the country, we want to know what we're buying.

This is a vicious, sometimes unfair process in which a bad word from a teammate or a coach with a grudge can cost a good kid hundreds of thousands of dollars. And yet every year, a few stone-headed prospects make it easier for NFL spies by getting themselves arrested on the eve of the draft. It's hard to see the justice in a kid taking a fall because he used to bake out and eat Ho-Hos in his dorm room. But a 22-year-old who can't stay out of jail in the month before the draft deserves whatever happens to him.

Pre-draft arrestees are honored with the Order of Justin Miller, named after the ballyhooed Clemson cornerback who was popped with a noise-and-resisting violation the week before the 2005 draft; the 6'2", 202-pounder shoved a female cop and screamed "This is my house and my party!" ("Shows good on-field leadership skills," noted a scout who observed) when police showed up at his place after a noise complaint. Considered a sure first-rounder, Miller dropped to the end of the second round, where the Jets picked him up and turned him into a big-time kick returner. Other well-known pre-draft arrestees include Ravens pass-rusher Terrell Suggs (for a street basketball fight), Saints wideout Talman Gardner (boilerplate weed bust), and Eagles D-lineman Jerome McDougle (trying to prevent police from towing a friend's car).

This year's Miller award winner has already made himself known. Tarell Brown, a cornerback from Texas, was busted for weed possession last week, two days after the university's pro day. The bust was a rare triple-cliché: a "routine traffic stop" meets "strong odor of marijuana" meets "but it was my cousin's joint, not mine" arrest. (Brown's cousin was driving.) Brown's lawyer seems to be planning a defense based on a theory of innocence, an interesting strategy given that his client was involved in a similar incident last summer, in which Brown was found asleep in the back seat of a car with a loaded handgun on his lap. The tough thing is that Brown's a pretty good player and his arrest will wreak unusual havoc on his draft status, as teams in the post–Pacman Jones era will be wary of picking a cornerback with multiple arrests. It says here that he will go to Dallas or Arizona in the fifth round.



AP/WIDE WORLD

FUZZY MATH Dexter Reid has two Super Bowl rings and one felony drug charge.

EX-PAT NAILED

You gotta hand it to the Patriots. When it comes to arrest-prone athletes, they know when to hold 'em, and know when to fold 'em. Safety Dexter Reid, one of the more undeserving players to win multiple Super Bowl rings (one with the Pats and one with the, ugh, Colts), was nailed last week for a weed-and-gun arrest. Reid's trademark play as a deep centerfielder for the Pats was a diving miss in which he wrapped nothing but air with both hands, landing mug-first on the turf as slow possession receivers blew by him for long gainers. He really sucked, and now he's also been arrested.

He gets 30 points for his crime. As for the rest of this NFL season, I'll have a full preview of draft-eligible criminals in the upcoming weeks.

Incidentally, keep an eye out for Florida and Arizona busts. The last week of baseball spring training is usually a target-rich environment for highway patrol cops who are light on their quarterly DUI quotas. Last week saw Tony LaRussa and Gustavo Chacin rung up, but it isn't really a season until a New York Met is in the pokey, reeking of Jager.

When he's not googling "NFL spies" and "Met in the pokey?", Matt Taibbi writes for *Rolling Stone*. He can be reached at M_Taibbi@yahoo.com.

YEARLY LEADER BOARD TOP 10

LAVON CHISLEY (PENN STATE) | murder | **99**
STEVE SWINDAL (YANKEES) | DUI | **98**
RON ARTEST (KINGS) | starving Socks, domestic violence, intimidation | **95**
PACMAN JONES (TITANS) | TBA | **90**
MURIETTA JOCKS (MURIETTA FIGHT CLUB) | various | **75**
TONE TAUPULE (U OF IDAHO) | pistol-whipping, armed robbery | **62**
SIX FOOTBALL PLAYERS (GUILFORD) | assault | **50 (downgraded)**
KAT. MAEKAWA (ORIX BUFFALOES) | DUI, hit/run | **47**
RONNIE FIELDS (MINOT SKYROCKETS) | sex assault | **40**
JERRAMY STEVENS (SEAHAWKS) | DUI, weed, throwing used condoms | **32**

THIS WEEK EXCLUSIVELY ON

thePhoenix.com

HOW NIRVANA ALMOST BECAME A BOSTON BAND

"Mary Lou Lord has been almost written out of the Kurt Cobain story," writes Everett True in his new *Nirvana: The Biography* (Da Capo). "Courtney [Love] long ago invented a scurrilous story about how Kurt was once disturbed in the middle of receiving oral sex from a Boston girl in the back of a van — and how this was the only time they met. Yet I have a strong memory from around this time of meeting a besotted Kurt going on and on about this girl called Mary Lou Lord, how in love with her he was, and how he was going to move to Boston to be with her."

True also includes a long letter from Mary Lou about her relationship with Kurt, and to back up her recollection we're opening our Nirvana vaults. Visit thePhoenix.com to read an excerpt from the book and to revisit a few classic articles from the archives. Read the 1993 *Phoenix* profile of Mary Lou Lord that set Courtney Love on a rampage, as well as the faxes that Love and Cobain sent us a few months later, which included a clue about whom "Rape Me" was written for, as well as a haunting coda from Kurt that eerily foreshadowed his suicide. Stay tuned to 101.7 FNX for an interview with the author on Thursday, and check thePhoenix.com/onthedownload on Friday to download the interview and win a copy of the book.

BLOGS

OUTSIDE THE FRAME A report on the Chlotrudis Awards. Plus, is the government looking to censor violent horror movies?

WORD UP Sarah Thyre, Jonathan Lethem, and more.

SOX BLOG On Monday, live blogging of the Sox' first game in Kansas City.

DAN WATKINS

VIDEO

READ YELLOW

The band played its final gig March 22 at the Middle East upstairs. Visit thePhoenix.com to watch them play their final song, with many of their friends joining them onstage.

VANILLA ICE COFFEE

If you missed Mr. Rob Van Winkle judging a bunch of Bostonians karaoke-ing "Ice Ice Baby" in Copley Square last week, here's your chance to see it again. It's so funny, Stereogum blogged it before we even announced it was up!

FREE TICKETS

Sign up for the *Phoenix*'s "Friends With Benefits" newsletter at thePhoenix.com/fwb and you'll get a ticket to the Jack Daniels Studio 7 tour featuring Blue October, April 24 at the Paradise. You must be 21+ to attend.

VW GREEN ROOM

This week, visit vwgreenroom.com and register to win tickets to an exclusive acoustic performance by Brand New, at First Act Guitar Studio on April 24. While you're there, download exclusive mp3s from bands performing live on FNX. This week, check out new tracks from Bloc Party, Pete Yorn, and Say Anything.

the Paradise
967 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

THIS FRIDAY!
Sebadoh
w/ special guest The Bent Moustache
FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Jamie Kennedy A Comedy Show
SUNDAY, APRIL 1
POSTPONED, NEW DATE TBA

Raq
w/ special guest The Bennys
THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Sondre Lerche
w/ guests Willy Mason, Thomas Dybdahl
FRIDAY, APRIL 6

The Everyday Visuals
w/ special guests Taxpayer, Bleu
SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Peeping Tom (feat. Mike Patton & Dan The Automator)
w/ special guests Miho Hatori, Pigeon John
TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Sean Lennon
w/ Women and Children, Kamila Thompson
THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Caspian, On Fire, Constants
FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Ryan Montbleau Band
w/ special guests Jamie McLean, Julian Velard
EARLY SHOWTIME: DOORS 8:00, SHOW 8:30
SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Son Volt
w/ guest Jason Isbell (from Drive By Truckers)
SUNDAY, APRIL 15

Aqualung
w/ special guest Sara Bareilles
TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Particle
w/ special guest Jerry Joseph
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Edwin McCain
w/ special guest Low Stars
THURSDAY, APRIL 19

HUMANWINE
w/ very special guest Aberdeen City
FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Ozomatli
SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Fountains of Wayne
w/ special guest Robbers On High Street
SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Josh Rouse
w/ special guest Kyle Andrews
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

WERS Welcomes
John Brown's Body
w/ special guest Club D'Elf
FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Kenna
SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Amon Tobin
SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Michael Penn
w/ special guest The East Town Chorus
WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

The Knitters
feat. John Doe, Exene Cervenka, Dave Alvin, DJ Bonebrake, Jonny Ray Bartel
w/ special guest Downbeat 5
THURSDAY, MAY 3

Peter Bjorn & John
w/ guests Fujiya & Miyagi, Au Revoir Simone
FRIDAY, MAY 4

Corey Smith
SUNDAY, MAY 6

WXRV Presents
Grant Lee Phillips
w/ special guest Kim Taylor
TUESDAY, MAY 8

LIVENATION.com
TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH ALL TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS, TICKETMASTER.COM, OR CALL 617-228-6000
Tickets also available at the Paradise Box Office Monday-Saturday 12pm-6pm, and the night of the show only. Box office is cash only.

BY STEVEN STARK

Presidential Tote Board

Diagnostic politics

WILL ELIZABETH EDWARDS'S CANCER GIVE HER HUSBAND SPECIAL GRACE?

GULIANI AND McCAIN
Cancer survivors

JFK
Addison's disease

FDR
Polio

WILSON
Stroke

GIULIANI AND MCCAIN PHOTOS © AP/WIDE WORLD

It's an unfortunate fact of American political life that one's entire personal life becomes public the minute one runs for office. So it went for John Edwards last week, with the disclosure that his wife Elizabeth's cancer had returned. That fired up the pundits, who, after a few sympathetic nods, went straight into election-analysis mode.

With situations like this, it helps to wait before taking stock; even a week later, though, no one really knows how this will affect Edwards's campaign. It's true that as the life expectancy of Americans increases, political stories about illness become the rule, not the exception. Rudy Giuliani and John McCain are both cancer survivors, as is John Kerry. Ann Romney has MS. Paul Tsongas waged an active campaign with his cancer in remission; and Ronald Reagan had major cancer surgery while president.

No one knew these stories in the past because the press didn't report them. History might have taken some very different turns had Americans been informed about JFK's Addison's disease and colitis, the extent of Woodrow Wilson's stroke or FDR's polio, or Grover Cleveland's jaw operation.

In this case, though it was obviously not one of the Edwardses' considerations, the nation seemed impressed by the way the couple handled the situation. More than any other event in the campaign so far, it captured public attention and became "water cooler" talk. While some undoubtedly found fault with the Edwardses' decision to let the campaign go forward, far more were struck by their grace and determination not to let this development stand in their way. They also saw the couple as a genuine team, in contrast with some notable others in the race. When John Edwards now talks on the stump, his promise to fight for the little guys who've taken their knocks will have new meaning.

REPUBLICANS

RUDY GIULIANI. *Odds for nomination: even.* The negative stories have begun to flow (last week it was that his current wife had a secret first marriage), but his numbers stay high. Either the public doesn't care because they regard Giuliani much the way they did Eisenhower — as a national hero — or they're not yet paying sufficient attention. Every week that Giuliani maintains his double-digit lead over McCain is another week he appears to be the inevitable choice, making it harder for his opponents to raise money against him. He's still not really campaigning in Iowa, though, which leaves him vulnerable to the rise of a formidable opponent who could come out of nowhere in the initial caucus state.

JOHN MCCAIN. *Odds: 5-3.* McCain still has a long way to go. There appears to be something static about his efforts so far, including in the arena of fundraising; a good first debate outing would help a lot.

MITT ROMNEY. *Odds: 11-1.* One reads wildly conflicting stories about the Romney effort. He's doing great and raising tons of money, say some; he can't get traction among conservatives, say others. The truth is probably a mixture of both. In the end, Romney's whole campaign comes down to New Hampshire. Either he'll win it and become a contender, or he'll drop out the next day. Right now, the polls have him within striking distance of the leaders in the Granite State, so he's in good shape there. Still, he needs at least a strong third in Iowa the week before, in order to convince NH voters that he's the real thing; that will be the first challenge, especially with Tommy Thompson now in the race.

IF YOU CAN'T BEAT IT . . . John and Elizabeth Edwards met with sympathy and cynicism after announcing they would continue his campaign.

TOMMY THOMPSON. *Odds: 40-1.* His entry strategy — essentially move to Iowa and try to win the first caucus — is a good one, since he's a neighbor and there appears to be a vacuum there. Whether the strategy works is another story and he will need a follow-up act. Either way, it's hard to believe he'll be able to raise tons of money.

SAM BROWNBACK. *Odds: 80-1.* All the talk about an entry by Fred Thompson or Newt Gingrich simply stalls this campaign; and Tommy Thompson's entry doesn't help either, because Brownback also must win in Iowa if he wants to proceed. Another month or two like this and this campaign begins to look terminal.

MIKE HUCKABEE. *Odds: 125-1.* A decent guy who is having trouble getting traction in such a large field.

JAMES GILMORE. *Odds: 750-1.* The guess here is that he decides soon not to run.

DUNCAN HUNTER. *Odds: 1000-1.* The hope here is that he decides soon not to run.

TOM TANCREDO. *Odds: 5000-1.* Immigration is still not on anyone's hot-button list.

RON PAUL. *Odds: 10,000-1.* Few care whether he runs or not.

ANOTHER ENTRY? The word is that Fred Thompson's wife now wants him to run (which is either a hopeful sign or a signal that she's anxious to get him out of the house), and Newt Gingrich continues to expound into any microphone within a 500-mile radius.

DEMOCRATS

BARACK OBAMA. *Odds: 3-2.* The usual pattern in presidential politics is that a candidate like Obama gets the full build-up from the media, and then gets torn apart for a while. That doesn't seem to be happening this time, in part because talk radio's obsession with Hillary has so far shielded Obama. He needs a few months of relatively little coverage to refine his stump speech and approach. So far, he seems to be getting it.

HILLARY CLINTON. *Odds: 7-4.* The machine churns on, methodically raising money and signing up operatives. Vilsack's endorsement, though hardly unexpected, will help in Iowa — though the assistance of a former governor doesn't carry a fraction of the benefit of that of incumbents.

JOHN EDWARDS. *Odds: 5-1.* Last week's events aside, Edwards is making good progress, leading in Iowa where he needs to do well, and making up ground in New Hampshire. He shouldn't be counted out.

BILL RICHARDSON. *Odds: 55-1.* The press regards him as a sleeper. Good night.

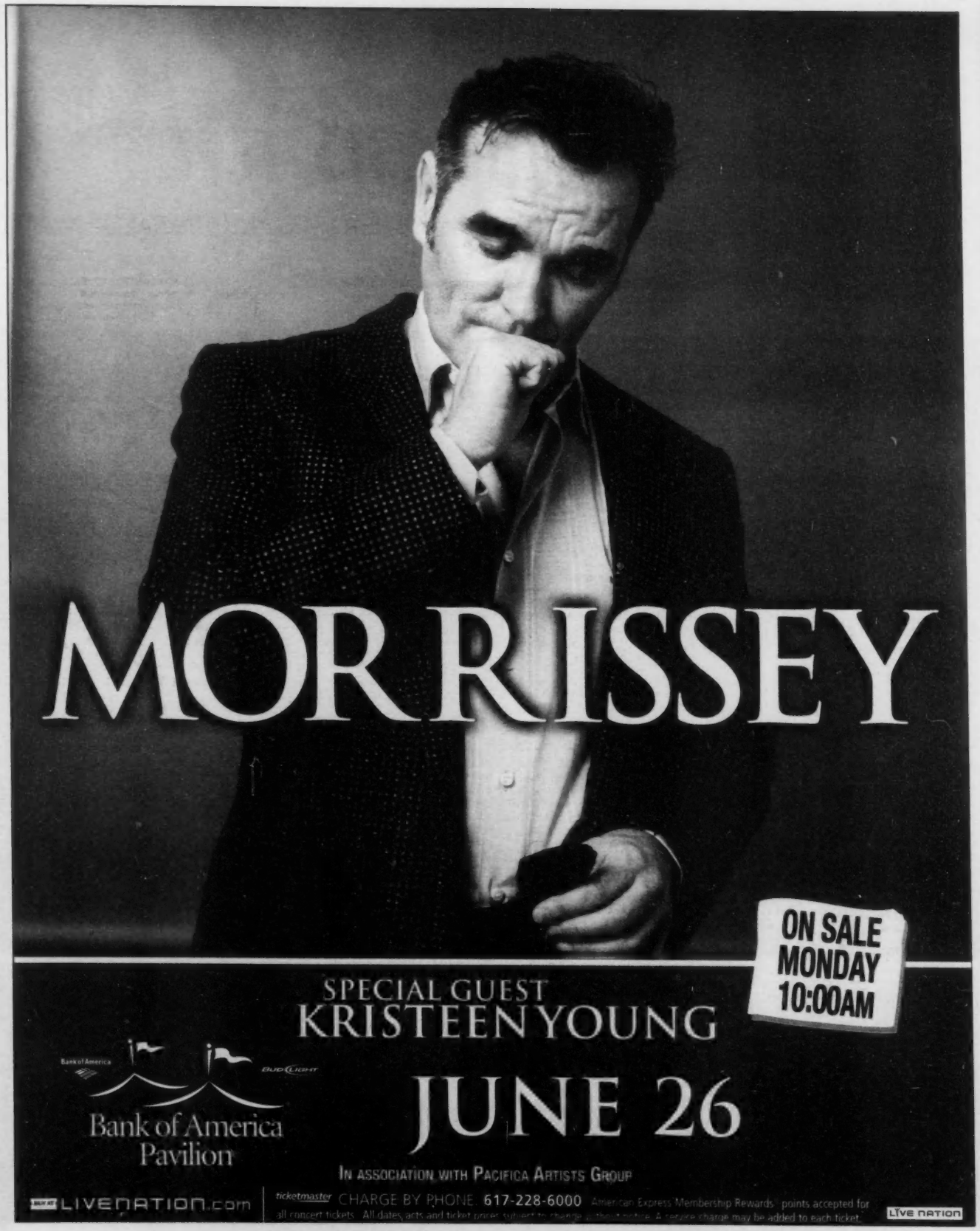
CHRIS DODD. *Odds: 60-1.* Having trouble attracting coverage.

JOE BIDEN. *Odds: 70-1.* Ditto.

DENNIS KUCINICH. *Odds: 25,000-1.* He's old news this time around.

MIKE GRAVEL. *Odds: 1 million to 1.* The good news is he has nowhere to go but up. ◉

To read the "Presidential Tote Board" blog, visit thePhoenix.com/toteboard. Steven Stark can be reached at sds@starkwriting.com.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LIVE NATION

BY ADAM REILLY

Don't Quote Me

Self-inflicted wounds

MEMO TO THE ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT: DON'T BLAME THE MEDIA

PHOTOS BY NICOLE MERCADO

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LAMENTING THE MEDIA'S COVERAGE OF ANTI-IRAQ WAR ACTIVISM FOR ABOUT AS LONG AS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN OPPOSING THE IRAQ WAR. IN OCTOBER 2002 – FIVE MONTHS BEFORE THE US-LED invasion commenced — Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR), the liberal media watchdog group, accused both the *New York Times* and National Public Radio (NPR) of incorrectly reporting that turnout at an anti-war rally in Washington, DC, had failed to meet organizers' expectations. FAIR's "action alert" had a modicum of success: the *Times* quickly reversed its assessment, and NPR issued an on-air correction.

That victory notwithstanding, Peter Hart, FAIR's activism director, insists that media bias against the war's opponents is abiding. "I think the protest coverage generally follows a rule: that protesters are people who are trying to crash the system and get coverage in a way that is kind of outside the bounds of normal politics," Hart says. "So reporters are dragged kicking and screaming to cover these events, and, I think, resent the idea that they have to pay any attention to this. It really doesn't matter how many people turn out or what happens when reporters — or more typically, their editors — aren't interested in the story to begin with."

Howard Zinn — the legendary activist, author of *A People's History of the United States*, and Boston University professor emeritus — makes a similar argument. "Just take this last rally," he says, referring to the protest in Washington on March 17. "It was tens of thousands of people, and that was much, much larger than the group of people who were protesting against it. But the people protesting against it got almost as much coverage as the anti-war people. . . . I don't think the media have been kind. And I also don't think the media have been fair to the anti-war movement."

Just because this notion of a hostile media is popular on the left doesn't mean it's correct, however. Anti-war sentiment is ascendant in the US today: according to a recent CNN poll, only 32 percent of Americans favor the war, down from 72 percent four years ago. (Sixty-nine percent of Democrats, 47 percent of independents, and 15 percent of Republicans said they oppose the war.) Even without a military draft, which helped Vietnam-era protesters reach beyond the converted to the unconvinced, this should be a period of tremendous opportunity for anti-war activists. But if the anti-war movement can't improve its own short-sighted self-presentation, that opportunity will go to waste.

OPENING THE POLITICAL FLOODGATES

Last Saturday, a protest pegged to the fourth anniversary of the Iraq invasion took place on Boston Common, starting at 11 am and culminating with a march into the Financial District a few hours later. The protest was endorsed by several groups, including United for Justice with Peace — a local anti-war coalition not to be confused with United for Peace and Justice, the national coalition that has supplanted Act Now to Stop War and End Racism (a/k/a ANSWER) as the highest-profile anti-war coalition. The *Herald* covered the protest in detail, but tucked its reportage and photos deep inside the paper, on page 20. In contrast, the *Globe* followed the proceedings as they were taking place Saturday afternoon on Boston.com; on Sunday, a story headlined GROUPS UNITE TO PROTEST IRAQ WAR fronted the *Globe*'s City and Region section, below the fold.

The *Globe*'s lead focused on Marge Mills, a Northampton woman whose son enlisted in the army without her blessing. Elsewhere, the article excerpted speeches by Zinn and anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan; relayed organizers' turnout estimates (4000 to 5000); and quoted Angela Kelly, outreach coordinator for Massachusetts Peace Action, saying that the march "got the message out to a new community of people."

Kelly's claim of efficacy went unquestioned; so did her description of the event as "a real coming-together from a broad and diverse range of organizations that are all working on a number of different peace and justice issues, but [who are] all united around one central demand to stop the war in Iraq right now." If anything, the *Globe* actually seemed to endorse this reading:

> *The crowd yesterday included college students, mothers, and children walking hand in hand. Some people carried home-made signs bearing messages like "Bring the troops home now," "Impeach Bush," and "Not my president."*

This struck me — someone who sympathizes with the anti-war cause — as a generously selective description. When I arrived at the rally Saturday morning, I followed the chanting to just west of Park Street station. There, 100 or so protesters were waving flags (black or black and red; no red, white, and blue) and taunting the bored-looking Boston police officers watching from across Tremont Street. The banner visible to passing pedestrians and motorists — WE STAND AGAINST IMPERIALISM — went far beyond simple opposition to the war in Iraq.

So did the group's chants, which started out as "The people of Iraq are under attack. What do we do? Stand up fight back!" After a few iterations, references to the "people of Iraq" were replaced; substitutes included "people of Palestine," "women of Boston," "people of color," "and working people." Also noteworthy: the two-sided sign hoisted by a young woman who was dressed for a day at the mall. OCCUPATION IS A CRIME — FREE THE MIDDLE EAST faced back toward the Common. The side facing Tremont Street boasted an even vaguer message, CHANGE IS POSSIBLE — NOW IT'S OUR TURN, and a black-and-white collage of Ché Guevara, Fidel Castro, Angela Davis, Malcolm X, Bob Dylan, Nelson Mandela, Bob Marley, and Tupac Shakur.

Over at the grandstand, a spoken-word artist was railing against the disproportionate representation of people of color in America's prisons. I walked around and sized up the rally's constituent parts: Christian peace activists; 9/11-conspiracy theorists; sundry socialist and Communist retreads; military families holding pictures of Iraq War casualties; pro-migrant-worker activists; animal-rights activists; the Workers World Party sign-holder who urged solidarity with Iraq, Iran, Cuba, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Palestine, Haiti, New Orleans, Asia, and Africa. (Nobody replicated the human peace-symbol formed by activists in Copley Square earlier this month.) I watched as Sergio Reyes, head of the Boston May Day Coalition, diagnosed the ills of American culture ("There's something wrong with a society that must be constantly at war . . . "). I listened to political commentary from the funk-jam band that had moved into the grandstand ("Anybody know what your dome is? That's your head. We don't need any homeland security; we need *domeland* security"). And I wondered how a generic Bostonian who'd supported the Iraq War but now questioned its wisdom would react to the scene.

BATHED IN LIGHT

That such trappings might lead journalists to treat anti-war gatherings skeptically — and give similar pause to the 60-plus percent of Americans who currently oppose the Iraq War — seems both obvious and worrisome. But it's hard to find anyone on

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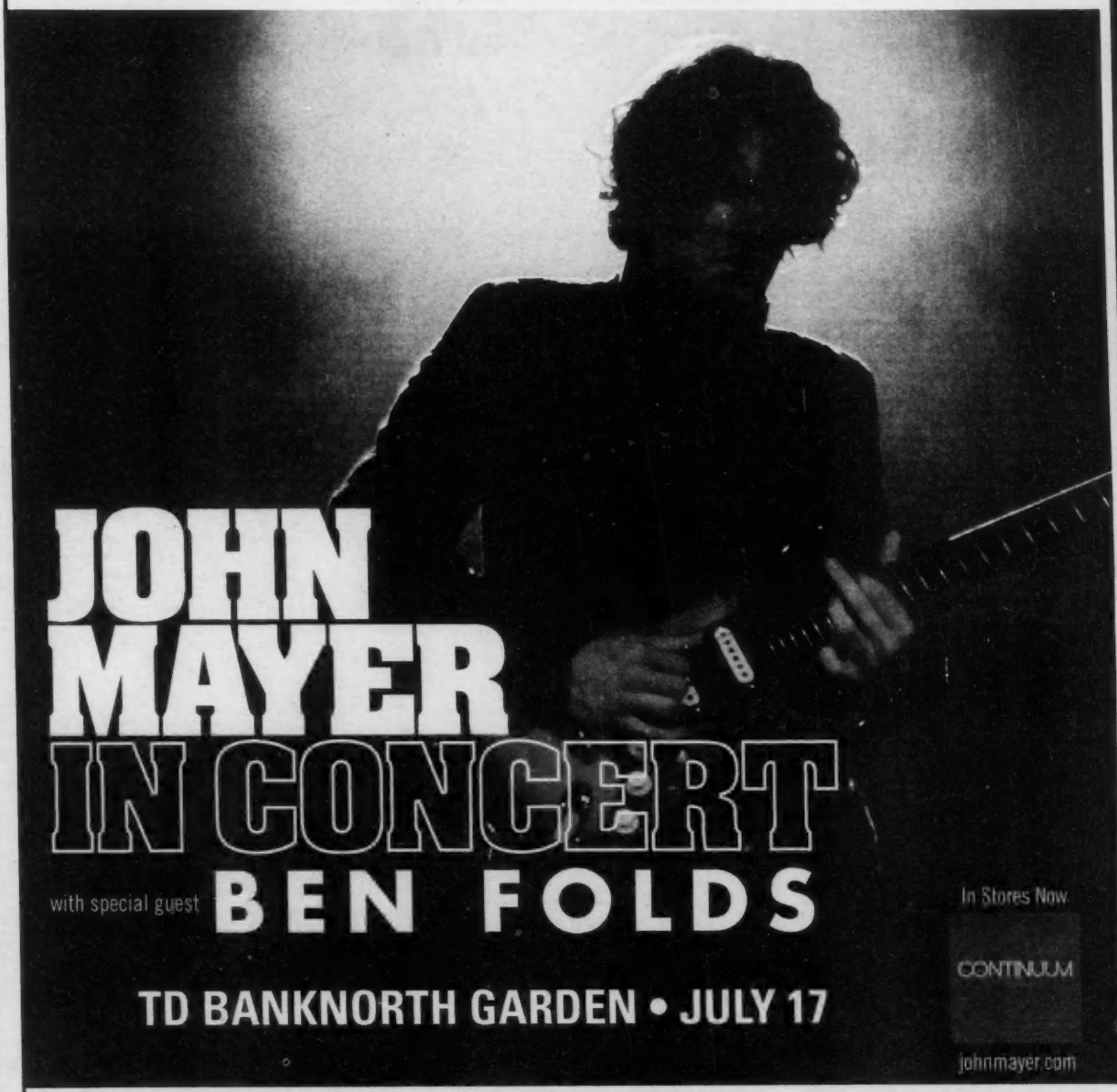

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NICOLE MERCADO

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the left who agrees. "I think what this really is is a crime of opportunity," says Jim Spencer, a Boston political consultant and alum of '60s-era protest group Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), when asked about the current anti-war movement's tendency toward diffuseness. "You've got groups of people gathering around a cause, and you have other people who believe in that cause who have another cause, too, as organizers. Historically, throughout any social movement, that's always happened."

"That's characteristic of radical movements in general," agrees Zinn. "Part of any movement is always further to the left, and bringing in larger, broader, different issues. Then there's usually the major part of the movement which is concentrated on one issue, and which is able to unite more people."

And what about dubious deployment of Vietnam-era iconography? Jane Fonda, the anti-war activist whom the Vietnam-era right loved to hate, was conspicuously present for the January 27 rally in Washington, DC; a Reuters photographer even captured her clinging dramatically to fellow actress-activist Susan Sarandon. Surely *that* wasn't a smart move?

Zinn wouldn't have it. "I think that's being overly cautious," he replied. "If I were around when somebody said, 'Oh, we shouldn't have Jane Fonda here,' I would resent that. That's surrendering to that minority of the American public who were hostile to Jane Fonda. After all, most Americans came around to oppose the war."

"I don't think a movement should judge its tactics by how a vociferous right-wing minority will react," Zinn added. "I think, in fact, that it's good to make a connection between Vietnam and Iraq. And I think Jane Fonda symbolized that connection."

But is the Iraq-Vietnam connection really a good one to make? Or, to put it more accurately: is it really good to make that connection in the way Zinn suggests? Today's anti-war activists have a burden their Vietnam War–era counterparts never had to contend with — namely, the legacy of Vietnam. It's because of Vietnam that catch phrases like "Support our troops" have more power than they should. It's because of Vietnam that the press signed on to the military's absurd "embedding" project before the Iraq War started. And it's because of Vietnam that critics of the Iraq War need to be so cautious about alienating those who fundamentally agree with them.

Of course, striving for a more standardized and palatable message would run counter to Radicalism 101, which holds that the great strength of coalitions is their diversity. It might also offend the sensibilities of activists who see the Iraq War as one manifestation of bigger systemic woes. But if the goal is to galvanize and strengthen opposition to the war — as opposed to luxuriation in a general sense of righteousness — it's a shift worth considering.

TIMES ARE A-CHANGIN'

David Corn, the Washington, DC, editor of the *Nation*, is a rare left-leaning critic of current anti-war methods. In 2002, Corn wrote critically about the movement's far-left hodgepodge of issues and ANSWER's roots in the Workers World Party, which backed the Soviet Union's 1956 invasion of Hungary and has subsequently supported Fidel Castro, Kim Jong-Il, and Slobodan Milosevic. "If you're trying to maximize your potential to get good coverage and to attract other people, the better your message is, the better your chances are," Corn says. "You can't control how the media is going to see you; you can just present the best and most effective image you can, and then see what happens."

But Corn also thinks the point may now be moot. "Without having any empirical data to back this up, it's my instinct that the days of having much of an impact on the political process with street protests are gone," he says. "If you could get 10 million Americans to flood Washington, that'd be different, but these demonstrations bring in tens of thousands, maybe 100,000 or 200,000. . . . If you're a congressman from Ohio, and 100 people from Ohio show up in New York or Washington and get swept up in this giant flood, it really doesn't mean much to you. But if you had those 100 people back home in your district, working really hard to convince their fellow citizens to put pressure on you, then you'd have to start worrying."

Maybe Corn is right. After all, the rise of groups like MoveOn.org may mean the real future of collective political action is online, not in the streets and shared public spaces. What's more, the broader anti-war cause is already moving forward in fits and starts: look at the sober conclusions of the Iraq Study Group, or the Democrats' 2006 takeover of Congress, or the recent House resolution setting a timetable for withdrawal.

Still, the continued affinity for mass protests is more than an anachronism. Something elemental happens when people mass with a shared purpose: convictions are reinforced; frustrations and hopes intensify; passers-by stop and watch, whether they agree or not. When this happens, the media confront a choice: do we tell our readers and viewers and listeners about this — and if so, what do we say? Public protests alone may not end the war in Iraq, but they can help or hurt the cause. There's still time to act accordingly. ●

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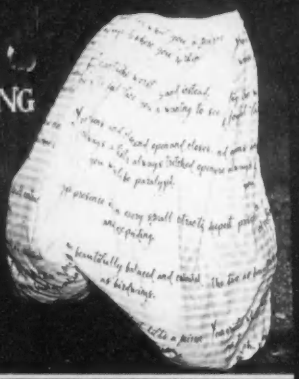

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Talking Politics

Who's with whom

WHEN JOHN KERRY BOWED OUT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SWEEPSTAKES, IT FREED BOSTON'S BIG DEMOCRATIC BROKERS TO FIND A FAVORITE. HERE'S WHERE THEY'RE GOING.

FOR DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES, BOSTON IS THE ATM KIOSK ON THE WAY TO NEW HAMPSHIRE. MASSACHUSETTS'S PRIMARY VOTES – FEW IN NUMBER AND LATE IN THE PROCESS – DON'T MEAN much, but the Bay State's deep-pocketed liberals dispense large quantities of cash that pays for the staff, offices, phone banks, and advertising necessary to win votes in Manchester and Keene, as well as in other early-voting states across the country.

Last go-round, most of the area's big fundraisers made the easy choice to support their home-state senator John Kerry: 57 Bay Staters served as contribution "bundlers" for Kerry, including two dozen who raised $100,000 each. There were only rare exceptions — such as former DNC chair Steve Grossman, who signed on with Howard Dean.

This time, the choice is tougher. Kerry announced his decision not to join the presidential race on January 24, setting off a frenzy of phone calls between the Democratic candidates and the A-List Democratic fundraisers of Massachusetts.

The pace has been accelerated by the pressure on candidates to register impressive fundraising totals for the first reporting period of the year, which ends on March 31.

The major candidates — Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, Chris Dodd, John Edwards, Barack Obama, and Bill Richardson — are all raising money in Beantown before that deadline. Obama slipped into town earlier this month for a breakfast fundraiser in Cambridge, and returned last week for a reported $2300-a-head gathering, both at supporters' homes. Local attorney Alex MacDonald hosted a fundraising dinner for Edwards this month. Biden held a lunch at the Boston Harbor Hotel — at $500 for supporters and $1000 for benefactors — after attending Southie's St. Patrick's Day breakfast on the 18th. The following day, Dodd was at Sonsie, where the minimum "suggested donation" was $1000. Richardson has a $1000-a-plate lunch at the Harvard Club scheduled for this Wednesday. And Friday evening, Clinton wraps up her first-quarter effort with a blow-out dinner at the Boston Park Plaza — donations starting at $1000.

This fluster of activity suggests just how much the candidates care about their upcoming first-quarter financial reports, which are due by April 15. It's their first real test, and to pass it they need to not just outdo one another, but to prove they can compete in a front-loaded, national nomination contest, where nearly half the states, including California, Florida, New Jersey, Illinois, and New York, could choose their delegates by early February 2008.

"The race is going to be over on February fifth," says Thomas O'Neill III, head of O'Neill & Associates consulting firm, former lieutenant governor, son of the legendary US Speaker of the House, and a much sought-after fundraiser. "In order to be a legitimate candidate, these guys are going to need to have $25 to $35 million."

Hence the fundraisers. But fundraisers don't mean much without funders. So the heat has been on folks like O'Neill to pick a candidate early — not just to give their own money, but to raise it from others. "There's a lot of pressure," says Robert Crowe, CEO of WolfBlock Public Strategies, and co-chair of the Democratic National Committee in 2004. "Getting in early is great, you become part of the family."

Put in the best light, fundraisers like O'Neill and Crowe, with their access, experiences, and insight, function as gatekeepers who select the best candidates to compete for the nomination.

In reality, though, many simply back candidates with whom they have personal relationships.

Kevin Phelan, a real-estate heavyweight who is supporting Dodd, concedes the point. "It's not ideological, it's purely personal," Phelan says. "Chris and I started as freshmen at Providence College in 1962. We had dinner last year at our 40th reunion, and he asked me to help him out."

The same goes for developer Richard Friedman's support for Dodd, despite his well-known close relationship with the Clintons, whom he has hosted many times at his Martha's Vineyard home and at the Charles Hotel in Cambridge, which is one of his properties. "[Dodd] has been my best friend for a very long time; we're dear, dear friends," Friedman says.

Attorney Alex MacDonald sings the same tune. "I came to this [supporting Edwards] in a very personal, not political way," says MacDonald. He met Edwards in early 2002, over dinner at a friend's house, and came away impressed; he led Edwards's Massachusetts team then and is doing so again.

This year, some are making that kind of personal-impression decision about Obama — and in some cases, turning against long-time friends in the process. The most-noted among this breed, perhaps, is Alan Solomont, local financier and major-league Democratic fundraiser. Solomont, who chaired John Kerry's fundraising effort in '04, has been close to the Clintons for years and was expected by many to join the Hillary effort, or, if he did shift, to deflect toward his former Tufts classmate Richardson. Instead, he joined the Obama bandwagon soon after Kerry made his announcement.

Solomont says he chose Obama because he truly believes the Illinois senator is the right candidate at the right time for the country. But he may also have been tempted, some suggest, by the opportunity to be a big player in the start-up campaign, rather than get lost in the vast Clinton fundraising machinery.

These early supporters bring more than money to a candidate. Solomont's presence on Obama's team helps reassure potential Jewish supporters, many of whom were offended by the candidate's recent comments on Israel, for example. "You're seeing the candidates begin by trying to pick off people who are strong fundraisers or who give their candidacies political credibility," Solomont says.

EARLY RUSH

The early rush to declare one's intentions has drawn criticism from some who want to see the candidates campaign for a while before declaring. "There's this whole class of people who care more about being in the game than common sense," says one major local funder. It was this group, or many among them, who rallied early around Attorney General Tom Reilly in the recent gubernatorial race, for instance. "They feel they have more experience and more insight, and should be the first to select a candidate. But they show worse judgment, not better, than average voters," the funder says.

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Not everyone feels that need for involvement — especially those who went all-out for Kerry last time around, such as Jack Manning, CEO of Boston Capital. Manning counts Biden, Clinton, and Dodd among his "very good friends," says spokesperson David Gasson, but isn't yet ready to throw himself into another presidential whirlwind. "Jack put a lot of himself into Senator Kerry's campaign," Gasson says. "He's a recovering supporter."

Others are holding off in anticipation of a sign as to whom the office holders are loyal. "If you're a close friend of a Senator Kerry or Deval Patrick, you want to see what they do," says Crowe.

But those same officeholders are in no rush to choose sides, even behind the scenes. "They don't want to be with a loser, they've been with losers before," says Boston attorney Lawrence DiCara, who is by his own assessment one of the "150 or so" Democratic fundraisers in the area being courted.

Meanwhile, Mayor Tom Menino has not yet sent any signals, say some close to him. The state's congressmen have stayed impartial. Many expect Deval Patrick to support Obama eventually, but that's no sure thing; neither is the support of Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray, who is said to favor Clinton.

If and when such endorsements come, many will follow. But for now, here's where the Democratic candidates stand among the Hub's power brokers.

DELAWARE SENATOR JOE BIDEN

Boston is key to Biden's plans, and it was no coincidence that he was the lone presidential candidate at the Southie St. Patrick's Day breakfast.

Local PR powerhouse Larry Rasky is a long-time friend of Biden's: he used to be Biden's press secretary and served as communications director for Biden's 1988 presidential campaign. Rasky brought Biden to Boston in order to pitch his presidential candidacy to select local insiders a year and a half ago, says City Councilor John Tobin, who is supporting Biden. And advertising tycoon Jack Connors was one of the first to offer the senator help raising money for an '08 run. Add to that the relationships Biden has developed among any and all Democrats over the course of 34 years in the US Senate.

An even more impressive, though less well-known, name on Biden's local friends list is Mary Liz Kane, of Liberty Square Group. Kane, former deputy finance director for Senator Ted Kennedy, was finance director for the Democratic National Convention host committee in 2004, a position from which she actually raised more money ($50 million) than they knew how to spend, resulting in a surplus.

NEW YORK SENATOR HILLARY CLINTON

Clinton's strategy has been to lock up party-insider support as early as possible. So it's a little surprising to see that very few of Kerry's big local-area fundraisers have signed on with her — only four of his 57 Massachusetts "bundlers" have lent their names to the host committee of her Friday fundraiser.

But Clinton is not shy of support, beginning with some of the area's most influential and well-connected women, including Barbara Lee, Swanee Hunt, Deborah Goldberg, Elaine Kirshenbaum, Elaine Schuster, and Gail Roberts. She's also got Steve Grossman on her side, and super-funder Donald Saunders — not to mention Kerry's former finance director, Jonathan Patsavos.

Plus, she's got an impressive and growing list of local supporters who are political-process newcomers, including entrepreneurs, young professionals, and gay-rights activists. "When I go to the steering-committee meetings, I probably don't know 40 percent of the people," says Grossman.

CONNECTICUT SENATOR CHRISTOPHER DODD

Dodd, a New Englander, Providence College grad, and lifelong Kennedy friend, probably boasts the greatest number of personal friends and acquaintances in Massachusetts among all the Democratic candidates. Many of them are sticking loyally with Dodd, at the expense of others who might have expected their support.

But as noted above, many of Dodd's prominent Boston-area friends have not yet committed full-tilt to help his campaign. Crowe is holding off on choosing between his good friends Biden and Dodd. O'Neill is in the same boat, choosing to aid both. "I'm in the mood to help friends," he says. "Joe Biden's people would like to have me to themselves, and so would Chris Dodd's."

For that to happen, Dodd will need to prove he's a viable candidate. If he does, more Boston power players will kick into action.

FORMER NORTH CAROLINA SENATOR JOHN EDWARDS

Edwards has a surprisingly low-key Massachusetts presence, and even appears to be losing the support of some of those who helped him in the 2004 campaign. Back then, the area's trial lawyers — second only to labor as big, reliable Democratic contributors — rallied around him.

Some of the old crowd is giving to him again, but not exclusively. Leo Boyle, a past president of the American Trial Lawyers Association, has donated to both Edwards and Biden in the past, but says he's waiting things out for now. Meanwhile, Michael Thornton is supporting Obama.

Of course, Edwards doesn't need them the way he did as a relative unknown in 2003. "His family is a lot bigger now," Boyle says. "It's not that the support from his legal family has diminished, but people have many good candidates to look at, and he has many other groups he's talking to."

But MacDonald says that fundraising in the state is going very well — and that when supporters' names do come out, it will include many familiar ones. "What was difficult and rocky terrain four years ago is now very fertile" for fundraising, he says.

Edwards also has Beth Leonard, a Menino operative, who previously worked on Kerry's campaign. No doubt she's working her contacts back in Boston.

ILLINOIS SENATOR BARACK OBAMA

Obama's Harvard Law School connections are working hard to help him; some are flung far and wide, but many are right here in and around Cambridge, including marquee names Lawrence Tribe and Charles Ogletree.

Perhaps not surprisingly, some local African-Americans are supporting Obama, including ubiquitous public-relations guru Collette Phillips and William Cowan of Mintz Levin.

But an impressive roster of insiders has also joined the cause. In addition to Solomont, Obama has former Paul Tsongas campaign chair Barry White; Tom Reilly hand Bob Sherman; Bill Clinton advisor Betsy Myers; and outgoing state-party chair Philip Johnston.

He also has some venture capitalists and young professionals, but hasn't yet really seen an influx of the energetic progressives who helped put Deval Patrick in office. In fact, even some supporters concede that Obama's local fundraising effort has been a little slow-starting — his first big event here won't take place until next month (at Boston University's Agganis Arena, if plans pan out), which is after the critical first-quarter reporting deadline. "We're building the plane as we taxi down the runway," Solomont says.

NEW MEXICO GOVERNOR BILL RICHARDSON

Richardson's slow start in this state may be the most surprising early development. Richardson has the truest Massachusetts roots of the group, having gone to high school in Milton and to Tufts University for both his undergraduate and graduate degrees. His wife, Barbara, grew up in Concord. Plus, "he's the only candidate who can genuinely claim to be a Red Sox fan," says Jeff Gulko, a Boston supporter, along with his father, Larry.

And yet, Richardson has done little or nothing so far to generate support here. A-List fundraisers in the area say they haven't had any contact or information from the campaign, and can't name anyone they know in the New Mexico governor's corner. His Harvard Club fundraiser this week was not expected to draw a huge crowd.

That's partly because Richardson has been anxious not to spend too much time 3000 miles away from the state he's just been re-elected to run — hoping to avoid Romney-esque abandonment charges.

Instead, he's been grabbing the low-hanging fruit offered by his friends and supporters in New Mexico and Washington, DC. Meanwhile, Boston-area bigwigs are getting scooped up, including fellow Tufts alumni Solomont and Barbara Grossman. The question is whether anyone will be left when Richardson finally gets around to wooing them.

AND THE FIELD

There are, of course, those in the local area who prefer a more off-brand candidate.

Ohio congressman Dennis Kucinich had quite a bit of support from Massachusetts liberals last time around — aside from the West Coast and Hawaii, the state was one of his biggest sources of funds for his 2004 campaign. Many will be with him again, although the state organization has yet to take shape.

Former Alaska senator Mike Gravel also figures to get some local progressive support. He was born and raised in Springfield, Massachusetts, and has been endorsed by New England icon Granny D.

There are also some waiting for Wes Clark to join the race. But the real Godot, of course, is Al Gore.

Until Gore definitively rules out the possibility of running, a lot of Massachusetts Democrats will withhold their full-fledged support for anyone else. After all, one uncommitted big-bucks Democrat says flatly that he would support Gore if he ran. ◉

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Early alliances

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Jack Connors, Hill Holliday founder
George Cronin, Rasky Baerlein, PR
Kevin Fitzgerald, former state representative
Chad Gifford, Bank of America
Bob Glovsky, Mintz Levin, lobbyist
Ed Goldman, WBZ/ProMedia
Mary Liz Kane, Liberty Square Group, PR
Woody Kaplan, ACLU, activist
Larry Rasky, Rasky Barlein, PR

CLINTON
Bonnie Berger, Boston College professor
Beth Boland, Bingham McCutcheon
Mary Breslauer, Human Rights Campaign
George Cloutier, AMS
Evan Dobelle, former DNC Treasurer
Thomas Glynn, Partners Healthcare
Deborah Goldberg, lieutenant-governor candidate
Steve Grossman, Mass Envelope
Rebecca Haag, AIDS Action
Gordon Hayes, LeBoeuf Lamb, corporate law
Swanee Hunt, former ambassador
Howard Kessler, financier
Elaine Kirshenbaum, Mass Medical
Barbara Lee, philanthropist
Marc Pacheco, state senator
Jonathan Patsavos, Kerry finance director
Lois Pines, former state senator
Alix Ritchie, Provincetown Banner
Gail Roberts, real estate
Donald L. Saunders, hotelier
Elaine & Gerry Schuster, financiers

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Charles Campion, Dewey Square Group, PR
Michael Danziger
Nina & David Fialkow, venture capitalists
John Fowler
Richard Friedman, developer
Nick Littlefield, Foley Hoag, law
Patrick Lyons, club owner
Kevin Phelan, Meredith & Grew, real estate

EDWARDS
Beth Leonard, former Kerry aide
Alex MacDonald, trial attorney

OBAMA
Barry Bluestone, Northeastern University
William Cowan, Mintz Levin, lobbyist
Cheryl Cronin, Brown Rudnick, law
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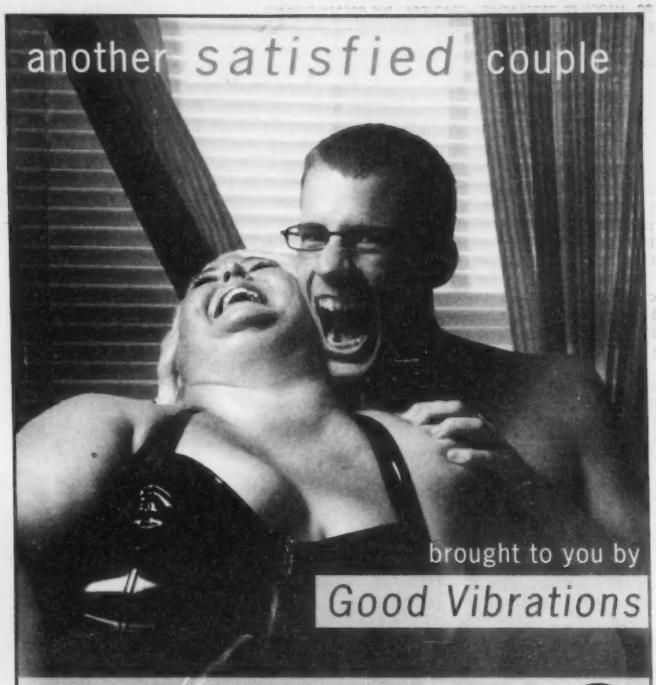

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Smoothie / strawberry / banana / avocado / sticky bun
Cobb Salad / great hill blue / bacon / avocado / egg / chicken or salmon
Mixed Lettuces / cruncy wasabi peas / clover honey vinaigrette

SECOND
Brioche French Toast / chantilly / apple butter
Poached Eggs / corned beef hash / toast / ketchup aioli
Sirloin Kabobs / eggs / frites / carmelized onion marmalade
Eggs Benedict / béarnaise / canadian bacon / english muffins
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THE MAUSS THAT ROARED

MEET THE MAN WHO MAY PUT BOSTON'S COMEDY SCENE BACK ON THE MAP

_BY SEAN L. MCCARTHY

A month ago, Boston comedian Shane Mauss could barely get local comedy clubs to return his calls. Just three weeks ago, he was headlining at an Elks lodge in Connecticut. But last Wednesday, the 26-year-old was performing for millions on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, where he had the host and fellow guest Neil Patrick Harris howling over his girlfriend's dismal view of the bedroom. "The vagina's always half-empty," he deadpanned.

Despite legend and the fervent dreams of multitudes, overnight sensations are rare in show business. But Shane Mauss seems to have pulled it off, through the usual combination of luck and pluck, as well as sharp joke-writing skill and a magnetic (some might call it hypnotic) stage presence.

Comedian Paul Provenza, who directed the 2005 documentary *The Aristocrats*, singled out Mauss on Penn Jillette's radio show earlier this year, calling Mauss one of a new breed of stand-ups who, judging by appearances, "don't really know what they're doing," but clearly have "so much skill and craft. Very smart stuff."

TRYING OUT HIS ACT

Over the past six months, Mauss, who'd been doing stand-up for only three years, has been raising his game at comedy competitions both here in Boston and across the country. Provenza had crossed paths with him in January at the Las Vegas Comedy Festival. And his performances during the Boston Comedy Festival stand-up contest last September, where he placed seventh, grabbed the attention of his fellow comedians, including Steven Wright (who introduced the Boston comedy scene to a national audience 25 years ago with his debut on *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson*, prompting talent scouts to converge en masse to launch the careers of "undiscovered" comics Bobcat Goldthwait, Denis Leary, Lenny Clarke, Paula Poundstone, Kevin Meaney, and many others — think of what Nirvana did for Seattle music, only a decade earlier and much less tragic). Soon, an HBO scout invited Mauss to audition for its annual US Comedy Arts Festival, held each February in Aspen, Colorado. "He was one of the last people booked," HBO talent executive Kathi Khoury said. "I had to fight for Shane," who didn't have an agent.

It was a huge break: Aspen is to comedy what Austin is to music and Sundance is to movies — a place where show-business executives gather to suss out the Next Big Thing. And on March 3, before all those heavyweights, Mauss's seven-minute set won best stand-up honors. "I got a bowling trophy once," he said that night. "Bowled a 235 in eighth grade. This (award) is going right next to that!"

THE BOSTON PHOENIX

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MUSIC + CLUBS + VENUES

JOE BOYD
p 12

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HUMANWINE

Artsy agitators
by Brett Milano | p 7

POP ROCKS
WHEAT
A happy return | p 10

FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE
Making differences | p 9

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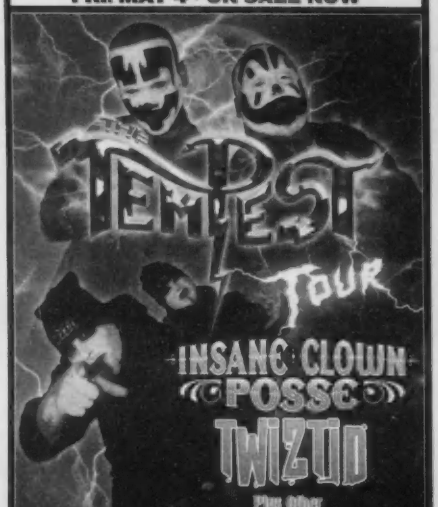

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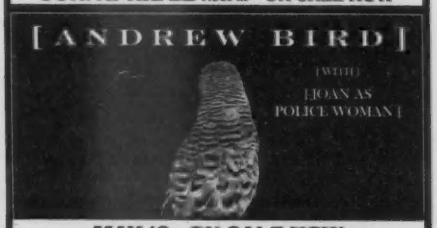

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SoundBites

THE WEEK IN MUSIC AND OTHER AUDIBLE TREATS

COMPILED BY JON GARELICK

FREE STUFF

A.K.A.C.O.D. | ZuZu, Cambridge | March 29 @ 10 pm | 617.864.EAST | **RALEIGH FINGERS** | River Gods, Cambridge | March 30 @ 9 pm | 617.364.0740 | **JODY GRIND** | Toad, Cambridge | March 31 @ 10 pm | 617.497.4950 | **POVERTY LINE OLD-TIME BAND** | Toad, Cambridge | April 4 @ 10 pm | 617.497.4950 | **RICK BERLIN** | Alchemist Lounge, Jamaica Plain | April 5 @ 10 pm | 617.477.5741

THURSDAY 29

POETRY SLAM

The New Orleans Women Artist Collective, which is based here and in NOLA (see the March 23 Music + Clubs section), helps out women artists displaced by Katrina. It's throwing its third local benefit, "Dangerous Divas," at the Milky Way with slam poetry star **STACEYANN CHIN** headlining a bill with New Orleans poets **SUNNI PATTERSON** and **ASALI DeVAN**. There will also be a slam segment open to all (sign up at www.nowac.org) | Milky Way Lounge and Lanes, 403-405 Centre St, Jamaica Plain | 7 pm | 617.524.3740.

HIP-HOP

If you know a rapper and he's not performing on the **STREET DREAMS TOUR**, he's probably dead or in a coma. The star power at this mostly Cash Money Records blowout (Lil' Wayne, Young Money, Rich Boy, Baby, a/k/a Birdman, Young Jeezy, Fat Joe, many more) is too big to cover in a paragraph, so let's just focus on Lil' Wayne. His mixtape *The Best Rapper Alive II* leaked last week, as did a few tracks from another mixtape, *The Drought 3*. They're, like, ridiculous. "My Daddy" (which you can get for free on-line) might be the best song he's ever done: "It's me, the rapper eater! Feed me! Feed me!" What's not to like? | Dunkin' Donuts Center | 1 Lasalle Square, Providence | 7:30 pm | $40-$80 | 401.331.6700.

INDIE

The fact that the **LONG WINTERS**' third full-length *Putting the Days to Bed* (Barsuk) was released last July and is still available for free streams on their indie-friendly label's Web site might have you thinking it isn't very good. Couldn't be farther from the truth. Helmed by the honey-voiced singer-songwriter John Roderick, the Seattle-based Winters' latest stab at melodic guitar pop is equal parts dreamy and danceable. They share tonight's bill with like-minded California folk-poppers the **BROKEN WEST**, **STARS OF TRACK AND FIELD** (see "Off the Record," page 16), and **DJ CARBO** | Great Scott, 1222 Comm Ave, Boston | 617.734.4502.

SWEET SINNERS

The Sterns

THURSDAY 29 | Something about the **STERNS'** new *Sinners Stick Together* (Omnirox Entertainment) takes us back to early Brit new wave — days of chiming guitars and jittery rhythms, when the Cure weren't that far from the English Beat. Whatever it is, we half expect singer Chris Stern to break out into "Boys Don't Cry" at any minute. He doesn't have to — with songs like the title track (soon to be a club anthem near you) and their tribute to defunct Supreme Court nominee Harriet Miers ("Supreme Girl"), the Sterns have their own indelible take on the perfectly turned pop song. They celebrate the CD's release with **MIDNIGHT CREEPS**, **GENE DANTE & THE FUTURE STARLETS**, and **AFTER HOURS** at the Middle East upstairs | 472 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 617.864.EAST.

JAZZ

Bassist **ED SPARGO** has long been one of the linchpins of he Boston scene, playing with the likes of Johnny A, Toni Lynn Washington, and James Montgomery. He works his self-released funk-fusion-style new CD, *Playroom*, at Ryles, 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge | 617.876.9330.

FRIDAY 30

POP

We've been digging on **CHRISTINA AGUILERA**'s old Hollywood glam style and married-lady composure so much these days, we've almost forgotten that whole "Dirrty" incident. So even though nothing on *Back to Basics* (RCA) makes us want to cry into a pillow the way "Beautiful" does, we wouldn't turn down a chance to see our X-Tina go all soulful and squeaky clean. She makes a pleasant contrast with her openers, hotter-than-your-girlfriend pop burlesque group **PUSSYCAT DOLLS**, who'll slink over to the Gypsy Bar after tonight's show to pose for pics with fans. Stalk or skip 'em at the TD Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston | 7:30 pm | $55 + $95 | 617.624.1000.

ROBYN HITCHCOCK has been delivering a dozen or so twisted pop gems every couple of years since he fronted the Soft Boys in the '80s. Although he went mostly acoustic for a few years, he's lately been electrified with his band the **VENUS 3** (Peter Buck, Scott McCaughey, and Bill Rieflin). The latest salvo from Hitchcock and the Venus 3, the *Sex, Food, Death and Tarantulas* EP (Yep Roc), even includes the Soft Boys classic "Give It to the Soft Boys." Hitchcock and the Venus 3 come to T.T. the Bear's Place with **JOHANNA KUNIN** opening | 10 Brookline St, Cambridge | 617.492.BEAR.

For those of you who spent the late '90s waiting out **SEBADOH**'s watered-down, spitless shadow of its buzzed-out, satirical self, this is the jackpot. Old Sebadoh, classic Sebadoh, Lou Barlow and Eric Gaffney and Jason Loewenstein Sebadoh, are back and touring. Barlow in particular has been up to lots of things lately with that other seminal indie-rock band, Dinosaur Jr., but it turns out that he found it in his heart to set aside a month and a half for a Sebadoh tour that should not be missed. If you want to hear what it sounded like when the word "indie" meant something, this one is mandatory. The **BEND MUSTACHE** open, at the Paradise, 967 Comm Ave, Boston | 617.862.8800.

ROOTS

With a long and storied tradition that goes all the way back to the folk explosion of the '60s, Club Passim generally doesn't have any problem putting together a top-notch bill for its annual anniversary benefit concert. The club celebrates its 49th by welcoming former Bostonian **MARY GAUTHIER** back from Nashville opening for the legendary **JOHN PRINE** — a guy who probably played a gig or two way back when Passim was known as Club 47. Starting off the night is singer-songwriter **MICHAEL TROY** | Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy Street, Cambridge | 7:30 pm | $35-$50; $125 includes post-concert party with the cast |617.496.2222.

SATURDAY 31

FOLK ROCK

Virginia's **CARBON LEAF** were well on their way to securing a grassroots following for their expansive folk rock before legendary folk label Vanguard came along and signed them — even if they didn't quite fit the singer-songwriter mold. No, Carbon Leaf are more into the group dynamic, and bringing everything from mandolin and lap steel to bouzouki into their mix of catchy tunes. They've been

Continued on p 4

Sour Bites

CocoRosie

HOT TIX

ALBUM LEAF | May 14 downstairs at the Middle East, Cambridge | $10 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **COCOROSIE** | May 16 downstairs at the Middle East, Cambridge | $12 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **SLEEPYTIME GORILLA MUSEUM** | June 3 downstairs at the Middle East, Cambridge | $12 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **"AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH DAVE MATTHEWS & TIM REYNOLDS"** | April 21 at the Mullins Center, Amherst | $55 | on sale Friday at noon | 617.931.2000 | **JOSS STONE + RYAN SHAW** | June 11 at Avalon, Boston | $29 | on sale Saturday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **RUSH** | June 27 at the Tweeter Center, Mansfield | $25.50-$78 | on sale Saturday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **STEELY DAN** | May 29-30 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $45-$85 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **EARTH WIND & FIRE** | May 31 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $35-$60 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **CHICAGO + AMERICA** | June 13 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $29.50-$66 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **K.D. LANG + LYLE LOVETT** | June 24 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $31-$61 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **MORRISSEY + KRISTEEN YOUNG** | June 26 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $35-$65 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **"SUMMER 2007 SOLID GOLD DANCE PARTY"** with the **VILLAGE PEOPLE** | July 13 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $30-$50 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **BOZ SCAGGS** | July 25 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $28.50-$60 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **MOODY BLUES** | July 30 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $35-$60 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **GIPSY KINGS** | August 14 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $30-$50 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO** | August 18 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $28.50 + $38.50 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **MICHAEL McDONALD** | September 22 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $23.50-$60 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **HEART** | September 28 at Bank of America Pavilion, Boston | $20-$45 | on sale Monday at 10 am | 617.931.2000

Continued from p 3

moving up the food chain since the 2004 release *Indian Summer*, and they headline the Paradise, 967 Comm Ave, Boston | 617.931.2000.

IN THIS ISSUE

WHEAT at T.T. the Bear's Place, p 10, with the **PLAIN JANES**, **VERONA DOWNS**, and the **YARROWS**.

SUNDAY 1

JAZZ

With "Birdhead," the title track from his new self-released CD, 23-year-old Boston trumpeter **ALEX TOTH** hits the hard-bop sweet spot: a driving funk rhythm and blues-drenched line, with a little outta-space electric-guitar bridge thrown in for good measure. And his trumpet playing has teeth — clean, bright tone and slow-boil solos with the requisite nasty-edge Lee Morgan vibrato when necessary. Toth (who's also in the reggae outfit John Brown's Body) and his band the **LAZYBIRDS** (featuring another John Brown member, alto-saxophonist/vocalist Kalmia Traver) play for free at Matt Murphy's, 14 Harvard St, Brookline | 617.232.0188.

WORLD

If you're a fan of local world-jazz improv guys Club d'Elf and Natraj — or you just want to find out more about the side of Iran that doesn't make the news pages very often — then you owe it to yourself to check out **HOSSEIN ALIZADEH & HAMAVAYAN ENSEMBLE**. The Iranian troupe include male and female vocalists and all manner of traditional percussion (tombak and daf), lutes (tar, setar, robab), and bowed strings (kamancheh). It's the real deal, and it should rock at the Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville | 7:30 pm | $24-$35 | 617.876.4275.

LOCAL

The 29th annual WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble kicks off at Harpers Ferry with **OCTAVE MUSEUM**, the **SILVER LINING**, the **APPRECIATION POST**, and the **LARKIN BRIGADE** | 158 Brighton Ave, Allston | 617.254.9743.

MONDAY 2

METAL

Prog-metal is probably the easiest way to label the Sacramento-based **HELLA**. But it doesn't do justice to everything that's packed into their expansive latest album, *There Is No 666 in Outer Space* (Ipecac). At least they're among hard-to-pin-down friends at Mike Patton's Ipecac label, which seems to be spawning a whole movement of bands who like Hella start with the heavy of metal and then lighten it up with titles like "Anarchists Just Wanna Have Fun" before pushing the boundaries of guitar rock as we know it. Hella are on a bill with **WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE SON OF GOD?** at T.T. the Bear's Place, 10 Brookline St, Cambridge | 617.492.BEAR.

LOCAL

The Rumble continues with **CASSAVETTES**, **ALOUD**, **ARK ROYAL** (formerly Almada), and **BAKER** | Harpers Ferry, | 158 Brighton Ave, Allston | 617.254.9743.

TUESDAY 3

POP

Justin Timberlake felt comfortable enough with his own pop-star standing to diss and dismiss **TAYLOR HICKS** for lacking singing chops. Perhaps he was just pissed at Hicks's adoption of a sleek suit and tie for performances. This *American Idol* Season 5 winner has taken the Soul Patrol on tour, and though his awkward-man dancing can't compare with JT's impromptu torso thrusts, we're reminding ourselves that his first single, "Do I Make You Proud," debuted at #1 on the *Billboard* charts whereas Timberlake took his sweet time to snag that coveted slot for "SexyBack." It pains us to admit it, but America voted. Pledge pop allegiance to your idol of choice at Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St, Boston 617.262.2424.

ALT-ROCK

Things really couldn't be going better for the Brooklyn-by-way-of-Wisconsin band **LOCKSLEY**. Everywhere they turn they find someone willing to help sell them as the big breakthrough act of 2007, from MTV, which funded the video for "Why Can't I Be You (Why Not Me)," to *Rolling Stone*, which picked Locksley as one of the 25 best bands on MySpace, to *Elle*, which gave them an eight-page layout. They even had a tune picked up by that hipper-than-thou shoe company Payless for a couple of ads. So there's gotta be something about *Don't Make Me Wait* (Feature) to justify all the fuss — right? Find out when they join **SCISSORS FOR LEFTY** at P.A.'s Lounge, 345 Somerville Avenue, Somerville | 617.776.1557.

LOCAL

More Rumble with **STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS**, **MY LITTLE RADIO**, **PROTOKOLL**, and **AGE RINGS** | Harpers Ferry, 158 Brighton Ave, Allston | 617.254.9743.

WEDNESDAY 4

ROCK

For the love of all things holy, don't drunk-dial **EVANESCENCE** leading lady Amy Lee unless you're stone-cold sober, because she's just not interested in your victimized, self-hating baggage. What she does want is to bellow her goth-rock ballads until she's winded and breathless, taking advantage of every possible run on every possible high note while she twirls in her Hot Topic-sanctioned (sometimes self-designed!) tutu dresses and bangs the shit out of her piano keys. The second leg of Evanescence's *The Open Door* (Wind-Up Records) tour brings them to the Dunkin' Donuts Center with openers **CHEVELLE** and **FINGER ELEVEN**. In the mood for a road trip? Sharpie your own pair of X's on your hands before you get to the doors or live to regret it | 1 Lasalle Square, Providence | 7:30 pm | $35.50 | 401.331.6700.

INDIE

Scotland's **AEROGRAMME** seemed to have so much on their musical minds when they got going in 2001 that their recordings were intriguing yet over-dense walls of metallic sound. They've since curbed their more-is-more tendencies, and on *My Heart Has a Wish That You Would Not Go* (Sonic Unyon) they discover the beauty of the drone, employ orchestral strings to offset guitar distortion, and split the difference between the rich, textural guitars of classic Floyd and the lighter layerings of Coldplay. They should be at full power upstairs at the Middle East with **TWILIGHT SAD** and **A NORTHERN CHORUS** | 472-480 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 617.864.EAST.

IN THIS ISSUE

JOE BOYD at Club Passim, p 12, with **DANA KLETTER** and the **SILVERLEAF GOSPEL SINGERS**.

THURSDAY 5

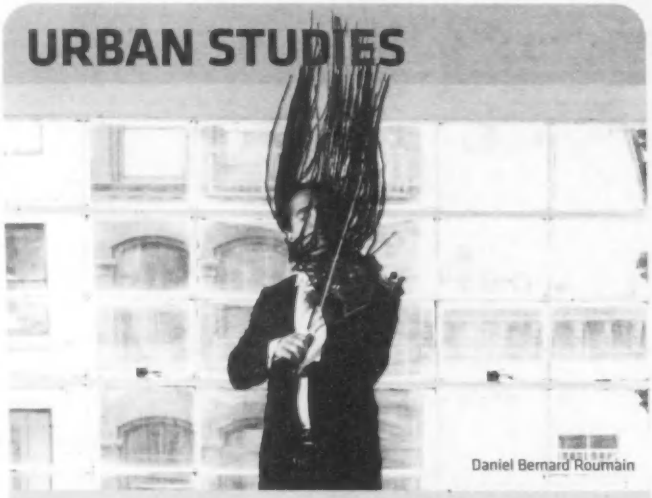
JAZZ

One of the best pianists to come out of the Boston scene in years, Argentine-born **LEO GENOVESE** goes way out on a limb at Ryles with his band **SUPER GAUCHOS**: trumpeter Phil Grenadier, saxophonist Dan Blake, bassists Justin Purtill and John Lockwood, and drummers Bob Gullotti and Nat Mugavero. Yes, two bassists and two drummers! Crazy! | Ryles, 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge | 617.876.9330.

LOCAL

Fourth night of the Rumble prelims with **SIX DAY SLIDE**, the **INDEFINITE ARTICLE**, **UV PROTECTION**, and the **SELF-RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS** | Harpers Ferry, 158 Brighton Ave, Allston | 617.254.9743.

URBAN STUDIES



Daniel Bernard Roumain

SATURDAY | The use of a string quartet in your music says "classical," but composer/violinist/pianist/laptop guy Daniel Bernard Roumain has other things in mind. For one thing, the string quartet in his band **DBR & THE MISSION** is amplified, and he's added turntables, drums, bass, and other electronics to the mix. Yes, there's some hip-hop in there, but the snippets we've heard at the band's Web site sound a whole lot like a world-music-influenced rock band. However it turns out, we like the title of one of the DBR works that will get its Boston premiere in a Celebrity Series concert tonight: "24 Bits: Hip-Hop Studies & Etudes, Book 1," at the Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, Boston | 8 pm | $23-$38 | 617.931.2000 or www.celebrityseries.org.

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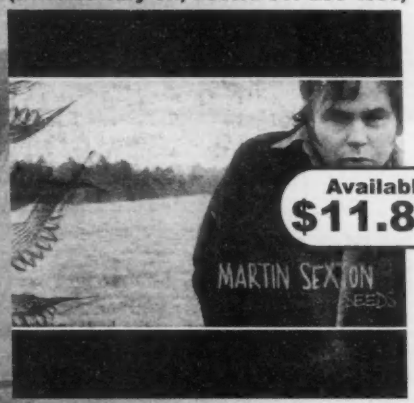

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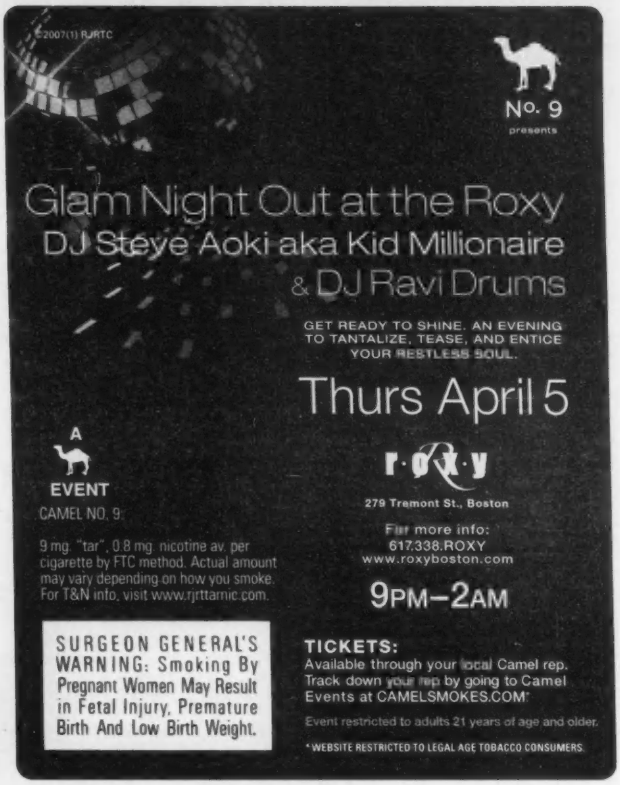
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LOCAL MUSIC

Boys Like Girls

TOP TEN LOCAL CDS

FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 25

COMPILED FROM NEWBURY COMICS

1. **DROPKICK MURPHYS, *THE WARRIOR'S CODE*** [Hellcat]
2. **BIG D AND THE KIDS TABLE, *STRICTLY RUDE*** [Side One Dummy]
3. **DROPKICK MURPHYS, *SING LOUD, SING PROUD*** [Hellcat]
4. **VARIOUS ARTISTS, *DARFUR: WE ARE ALL CONNECTED*** [Berklee]
5-6. **DROPKICK MURPHYS, *BLACKOUT*** [Hellcat]
5-6. **DROPKICK MURPHYS, *LIVE ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY FROM BOSTON, MA AT THE AVALON BALLROOM*** [Hellcat]
7-8. ***BANG CAMARO*** [self-released]
7-8. ***BOYS LIKE GIRLS*** [Red Ink]
9. **VARIOUS ARTISTS, *WFNX WICKED GOOD BOSTON BANDS, VOLUME 2***
10. **BIG D AND THE KIDS TABLE/BRAIN FAILURE, *BEIJING TO BOSTON*** [Bad News]

Linwood bounce

BEAT RESEARCH GOES BIG; 7L SKATES AND DUDLEY ROCKS

CIRCUITS
BY DAVID DAY

Beat Research, the Monday-night beat-scholar fest at Enormous Room, is going large this Friday with Bouncement, a party of extreme bass sound and huge beats with an experimental touch. Here's the surprise — it's at the Linwood Grill. "They got in touch with us and asked if we wanted to do something there," says **DJ FLACK** (a/k/a Anthony Flackett) while on break from his teaching duties at MassArt. "And that was right when Ghislain got in touch, so we're going to give it a shot." Ghislain is **GHISLAIN POIRIER**, a glitch and hip-hop producer and DJ from Montreal who's joining the festivities along with **DJ C** (a/k/a Jake Trussell) and **ZEBBLER** and **SEAN STEVENS** doing visuals.

"This is the first time we've taken Beat Research out of the Monday-night context," Flackett continues. "We thought it would be fun to make a big ol' slammin' dance party." And slam it will. Poirier is a world-class producer who's remixed Lady Sovereign and made beats for Parisian hip-hop act TTC; DJ C is Boston's own legend, having made tracks for M.I.A. among others. Zebbler and Sean you might have heard of. "We've known Peter [Zebbler] a long time through MassArt," Flackett pounts out, "and he DJ'd with DJ Krush, so he's got chops."

Poirier chimes in via e-mail: "I like both sides of DJ C, the production and the DJing. I feel really close to what he's doing and I like the bounce in his riddims." Both DJ C and DJ Flack have visited Montreal and played at Poirier's Bounce Le Gros party, a jam-packed crazy night of French- and English-speaking Canadians under one roof. "His night brings everyone out," says Flackett, "and that's what we're all about too, bringing people together."

The common thread of the music Beat Research plays is bass, and Poirier is no different. "I like to play lots of different music. It's not a secret, but the common link is bass. So all the combinations between raggae, electronic, and hip-hop are welcome. I also play a bit of dubstep and soca." And he's liking our Basstown more and more. "I've played a couple of times in Boston, and it seems like there is a scene evolving there. I'm starting to see some familiar faces when I'm DJing, which is always nice, and I'm starting to push things a bit further musically when I play there." Flackett is excited by the possibilities of the new venue. "We mostly wanted a big open space where people can really dance." The party starts at 9 pm and is only $5.

All three of the players at Bouncement have new CDs to pimp as well. Poirier has just released his *Bounce Le Remix Vol. 2* project on his Web site, an 11-track compilation of new beats with killer reworks of Clipse, Busta, and Ciara. (Circuits' favorite has to be the Daft Punk/Spank Rock mash-up/edit on track #4 — brilliant.) DJ Flack is dropping his *Strictly Scientific* album on Providence's Cozy Music this spring; included is "KlezmaTone," a wild blend of reggaetón and klezmer. Not to be outdone, DJ C will bring out *Sonic Weapons* on Wimm Recordings June 6. It includes contributions from MC Zulu and Boston's **WAYNE MARSHALL** and remixes from Poirier himself. "It was a pleasure to remix that track he did with MC Zulu," Poirier says. "I'm pretty sure you'll hear him remixing one of my tracks in the future." What goes around comes around.

Speaking of going around: the Student Council has announced its guest for the next Boston Roller Boogie party. Best DJ in Boston **7L** takes on the Chez Vous roller rink alongside **DJ KNIFE** and resident **COLBOURNE**. It's the first time 7L will have played at the venue in at least a decade. "Umm, we actually were in a few local hip-hop talent showcases there in like '94," he says via e-mail. "I am glad people are getting together to help the place out. I was never much of a skater, but in the '80s the music was always top-notch — a nice balance of R&B, which is light years better than today's R&B. You know, Al B Sure, Black Flames, that stuff mixed with a healthy amount of hip-hop, it was a good time." The party — dubbed "Spring Rolls" — is next Thursday, April 5, and the $8 admission includes skate rental. "Looking forward to the Pepsi and microwave pizza," 7L signs off.

There's more hip-hop activism this Saturday when ACT Roxbury, Critical Breakdown, and Berklee College throw down at the Hibernian Hall in Roxbury. The five-hour event is free and starts at noon. Two cool panels will take place, one on "Women in Hip-Hop" and a "Demo Derby" where experts will critique songs submitted that day and break down what makes a hip-hop classic. Panelists will include **PRINCE CHARLES ALEXANDER** and WBUR critic **RENEE GRAHAM**.

CLUB SHOT
BY AARON PEPELIS

READ YELLOW March 22 at the Middle East.

Porn in the USA

THE BUFF GETS OFF TO A RACY START

OUT
BY JIM SULLIVAN

What's the last time you went to a theater to see a porn movie? That question came up after the screening of *American Stag*, a 67-minute history of stag films made by Benjamin Meade. The flick kicked off the ninth annual Boston Underground Film Festival at the Brattle Theatre a week ago Thursday.

"Not since the Combat Zone closed," said festival founder David Kleiler. "*Deep Throat*," said Roger Miller, guitarist with Mission of Burma and keyboardist of the Alloy Orchestra. And Jonathan LaMaster of Cul de Sac? "Never." He grew up with a VCR.

Not even Meade had been to a porn theater when he began collecting 10-minute reels on eBay — to date close to 900 — and began work on his documentary. To supplement the oft-scratchy sex clips, the Kansas City–based filmmaker and college teacher added commentary from Adam Carolla, Melvin Van Peebles, Tommy Chong, and *Film Threat* magazine's Chris Gore. And for the festival screening, the Alloy Orchestra created a score. "We are more commenting on the scenes, often with completely contrary music," said Miller. "So in true early-silent-era style, we approached it with a very healthy dose of slapstick." The three Alloys also played live to a short collection of Meade's hardcore clips that preceded *American Stag*. The young actresses in the clips, true to their time periods, were Marilyn Monroe and Barbra Streisand look-alikes.

After the screening, the scene moved to the Hong Kong Restaurant, where DJ Brother Cleve played what he called "porn beat — Italian and German instrumentals with lots of heavy breathing. It's more humorous than sexy." Sample song titles: "Young Stud," "Sexology," and an easy-listening, orgasm-infused version of James Brown's "Sex Machine." Two couples from Black Cat Burlesque did their horror/striptease act. Pete Sutton, whose bands Temper and Electrolux were playing later during the four-day festival, said, "We just want to provide a musical soundtrack to some of the most cutting-edge films of Boston. . . . Who knows? Maybe next year we'll work our way up to the regular film festival."

The Information

MP3 of the Week

THE INFORMATION, "BACK FROM THE DEAD"

Three things that bode well for the new EP by the Information, as gleaned from the in-the-studio video they recently posted on their MySpace page: *1)* They've got more guitars and they know how to use them: *2)* The man behind the board is legendary producer Paul Kolderie (Weezer, Dresden Dolls, etc.); *3)* When they go to the liquor store, they make for the Jack Daniel's. Those who remember the Info from their much-praised debut, *Mistakes We Knew We Were Making*, will by now be doing double takes. But believe it: here's one Eggers-worshipping new-wave band who've learned how to rock. The EP, due soon, will be an Internet-only release, with a twist: show up at a gig with a fistful of bills and they'll load it right onto your iPod, or for a few bucks more they'll give it to you on a flash drive. Visit thePhoenix.com/onthedownload for a taste, then catch 'em live at the Pill this Friday (March 30) at Great Scott.

Eclectic collective

Humanwine emerge as Boston's next big concept in rock

KELLY DAVIDSON

PIERCING Despite their sound, Humanwine had never heard of "Bertolt Brecht and that other guy, Kurt Weill."

The house that Humanwine founders Holly Brewer and M@ (*i.e.*, Matt) McNiss share in Jamaica Plain looks like a gallery that's exploded. Hanging up in no particular order are Indian tapestries, graveyard rubbings, abstract canvases, dancing skeletons, political posters, erotic pin-ups, and punk-rock gig flyers. It's a perfect visual translation of the duo's cut-and-paste musical style. And it's a clue to the way Humanwine (a name they spell with all caps) see themselves, in that they're as much about socio-political art as about rock and roll.

"I was a visual artist for most of my life before I focused on music," McNiss explains. Brewer adds, "And I was always picking up bones in courtyards and making necklaces out of them, before I started poking holes in people for money." (She did piercings.) The pair are well matched: she's a small spitfire and he's a quieter heavy thinker. Brewer: "What we do is a hundred million percent about politics. And about relationships — the relationship between large masses of people and the small groups of people who control them." McNiss: "Our only real intention is to live the life of art and to do it convincingly. We wear our influences on our sleeve, just like anyone else. But our sleeves are all patches of everything we've ever liked."

Humanwine have been drawing notice and raising eyebrows since arriving in town two years ago. Beyond Brewer's facial tattoos, there was their sound, which like that of the Dresden Dolls and Reverend Glasseye (two groups Humanwine are often lumped in with) is unusual and has an art-school/theatrical edge. But rather than being purely cabaret or purely rock and roll, Humanwine suggest the soundtrack of a play that hasn't been written yet. It has rock elements, but they're mixed in with circus music, drunken sea chanteys, and spooky waltzes. McNiss throws out just enough heavy guitar riffs to provide familiarity; Brewer's voice and her commanding stage presence lure you into the darker and more dreamlike aspects.

CELLARS BY STARLIGHT
_BY BRETT MILANO

You'd think all that would be hard to capture on disc. But Humanwine's debut full-length, *Fighting Naked* (Cordless), does the trick. The band's rockier side is more pronounced than when they play live, thanks partly to Dresden Dolls drummer Brian Viglione. He's a long-time associate of the band and, along with Reverend Glasseye's bassist Paul Dilley, will be joining them on a three-week tour that brings them back to the Paradise April 20. Viglione has been a fan since he overheard a rehearsal two years ago. "What got me was how sincere and completely untainted by outside influences it was. As if you'd picked up a rock and there was a whole other world of insects crawling under it."

Despite the rockier sound, the *Threepenny Opera*–styled "Dim Allentown Cove" and the Dietrich-esque "When in Rome" make this as eclectic as any major-label release in recent memory. And yes, it is a major-label release. Humanwine were signed back in 2003, when a friend introduced them to Jac Holzman, the veteran Elektra president who was looking to launch a new label under the Warners umbrella. Since his other signings include the Residents and Devo spinoff Jihad Jerry, one can assume that Holzman's top priority wasn't moving units. "He's a hot shit," says Brewer. "He said we remind him of the Doors, who we sound nothing like. And we got control over a lot of things — everything, in fact." As for influences, she points out, "We've never heard of half the ones people mention, like Bertolt Brecht and that other guy, Kurt Weill. If they said Tom Waits or Dead Can Dance, I'd understand."

Even before they met up with Holzman, Humanwine's history had been far from conventional. The band emerged from Laconia, New Hampshire, where the music scene, according to McNiss, consists of "three Journey cover bands who play all year long." "We were surrounded by cemeteries," Brewer adds. "We could practice all the time and nobody complained, because they were all dead." The pair had already traveled the country doing stage construction on Phish tours, and Brewer admits she made supplemental income on those tours. "I was a drug dealer, I even sold at the Grateful Dead show the night before Jerry died. The police never bothered me because I was the cute 15-year-old girl with the dog who couldn't possibly have all those drugs on her. No regrets, because I got all my debauchery out of the way by the time I was 23. Between 12 and 23, I was totally fuckin' lifted."

Toward the end of their wild years, McNiss and Brewer came up with the idea that's informed their work ever since: the songs would all be set in Vinland, a totalitarian society with recognizable connections to our own. Brewer: "It was one of those crystal-meth ideas that takes you over for days. We went on for hours and could not stop talking about it — 'Okay, the evil characters are the not-mes, and the good guys are the you're-your-owns.' We made up commercials and slogans. We just couldn't stop." The Vinland concept has helped Humanwine to invest their music with politics without seeming preachy. McNiss: "It allows us to do a full, emotional description of how some small, imaginary creature is getting stomped on by some big, aggressive creature."

Brewer: "A lot of political music sounds like someone's yelling at you to clean up your room. Doing a parallel world was a way around that. None of our songs end like, 'Ha ha, you're fucked!' It's a little more solution-oriented." ◉

HUMANWINE | Paradise Rock Club, 967 Comm Ave, Boston | April 20 | 617-562-8820

Notes

_BY JIM SULLIVAN

Drummer **BILLY BEARD**, who's also a long-time club booker, saw a young band called the **EVERYDAY VISUALS** at the Lizard Lounge last year and was knocked out. "I'd never seen a band that mature at that age. They have musical ideas that span Radiohead to Jon Brion to the Beach Boys." It was Beard's enthusiasm, in part, that prompted the Manchester (New Hampshire) fivesome to move to Boston last year. As singer-songwriter and guitarist Christopher Pappas explained at a recent CD-release party at ZuZu, "We felt we'd made a name for ourselves in New Hampshire, and Boston musicians had started liking us." Indeed, Beard now serves as their de facto manager. On April 7 the Everyday Visuals will celebrate their self-released second disc, *Things Will Look Up*, with a gig at the Paradise. And the band are happy to be self-sufficient. "In this digital age," says Pappas, "labels have less to offer bands. We've never been enticed. Labels can be 'Get rich quick' schemes."

Noise publisher **T MAX** has written a song, "End War Now," and gathered 30-plus singers to join in the recording on April 15 at 1 pm at Hi-N-Dry studio in Cambridge. "It's a community project based in recording," says T, who plans to distribute the song via the Internet. The line-up includes Mission of Burma guitarist Roger Miller and former Morphine saxist Dana Colley, singers John Powhida of the Rudds, Emily Grogan, and Linda Viens. . . . Another Rudds member, **BRETT ROSENBERG**, is relocating to Nashville. He hasn't left yet. The singer/guitarist, who fronts his own Brett Rosenberg Problem, plays one last gig with the Rudds at Johnny D's April 7. . . . And Push Stars singer-songwriter **CHRIS TRAPPER**, who has no connection to the Rudds that I'm aware of, has been busy working as a producer on *A Change of Venue*, the new CD by the Ohio folk-rock band the Princes of Hollywood. ◉

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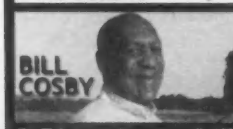

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Pop

'Billy Joel is just one of those things. I don't think we ever as a group decided if we like him or hate him, but we *know* all those songs.'

Elixir of youth

Fountains of Wayne push their expiration date

BY FRANKLIN SOULTS

ANOMIE BROTHERS The price of parody is distance.

After 11 seesaw years in the pop music marketplace, Fountains of Wayne return on a fourth studio album and third label as an unparalleled American pop-rock phenomenon. The quartet's music is a golden mean of pop-rock history, as homy and basic as meatloaf made from leftovers (or leftover Meatloaf). But the songs are conceived as sly, terse, open-ended portraits of average Joes and Janes whose lives might be nourished by the same musical leftovers; it's a black-comic gravy that's almost as rarefied as the elixir of the Fountain of Youth.

"You know, there's been so many zillions of records made, the hardest thing to do is figure out something that doesn't quite sound like anybody else, even though it sounds like it's maybe influenced by lots of people," says group co-founder Adam Schlesinger when I reach him by phone at his Manhattan home. "It's like, you might hear a song that reminds you of, whatever, whether it's the Doobie Brothers or the Cars or Blondie or the Beach Boys, but you know, maybe we're singing something slightly different from what you would expect with that kind of musical bed."

Which is why the first time the chorus kicks in on "Someone To Love," the bouncy lead single off *Traffic and Weather* (due this Tuesday on Virgin), something seems slightly wrong — that is, everything is too right. Over a sweet and bouncy dance-rock beat, the verses tell the story of two lonely strangers, Seth Shapiro and Beth Mackenzie (he listens to Coldplay, she watches *The King of Queens*), but the chorus smoothes it out with the pat hope that "One of these nights/You might find someone to love." Sure, it fits the music's cheesy synth-pop brightness to a T, but that's exactly the problem — it makes the song predictable, campy, as disposable as Eiffel 65's Italo-disco hit "Blue (Da Ba Dee)," which it vaguely recalls.

It's not till the last verse that Schlesinger and his mates pull off their "slight difference," bringing Seth and Beth together in the pouring rain as they try to hail taxis: "Beth Mackenzie sees one just up ahead/She cuts in front of him and leaves him for dead." The music stops on a drumbeat, the rain softly pours, and then the chirpy synths and "uh uh yeah" background vocals swoop back in for the coda. And suddenly, this familiar musical bed seems as cold and alien as Beth and Seth are to each other.

The point, however, isn't (just) cruel irony. The details are too tenderly chosen, as when Seth tells his mom he's fine as she gets a call on another line. And right after the cold slap of "Someone To Love," the disc moves into more humane terrain as it portrays several clueless males seeking to impress the opposite sex, from a dude souping up his " '92 Subaru" to a dude scheming in the DMV line to hit up "Yolanda Hayes" to an anchordude telling an anchorchick they belong together like "Traffic and Weather." The group's sizable cult will probably embrace these pop-rock sureshots as fondly as they did the clueless kid who's got the hots for "Stacy's Mom" on 2003's *Welcome Interstate Managers* (S-Curve). But compared with the 16 tracks on that fantastic predecessor, or the 14 on the quartet's almost equally masterful second album, *Utopia Parkway* (Atlantic), the 14 fine-to-excellent numbers on *Traffic and Weather* suggest that even rarefied elixirs of youth have expiration dates.

For starters, even when they avoid cruel irony, the group's heavier dose of historical references threatens to tip into parody. "Yeah," admits Schlesinger, "sometimes if we're writing something or recording something and it starts to remind us of a certain thing, we'll go *more* toward it rather than shy away from it." This can be fun, for sure. I always find myself waiting for the Billy Joel reference on the rollicking "Strapped for Cash," and it must have been a blast to have been at the Portland (Oregon) show where the group alternated between their own songs and Billy Joel covers. Schlesinger: "I really don't know why [we did that]. Billy Joel is just one of those things. I don't think we ever as a group decided if we like him or hate him, but we *know* all those songs. So we just can't stop ourselves . . . it's like a disease."

The price of parody, however, is distance, and even when the music circles in more tenderly, its subjects are often fatally distanced from themselves, trapped in a rootless anomie that spins them from one missed connection to another. This theme climaxes with the penultimate number, Schlesinger's "New Routine," a tour de force of arranging, producing, and thematic shuttlecock worthy of *Babel*, and ultimately just as desperate.

"I think in everybody's life there's probably a sense of loneliness that creeps up from time to time — if not all the time," says Schlesinger about his songwriting on *Traffic and Weather*. The reason he mines it, he explains, is "that's just part of making a song feel true, or something." As we speak, however, he's still celebrating the birth of a baby who's not two weeks old, the second child in his eight-year marriage to a successful New York graphic designer, and he sounds as charged as every new dad should be. ("Oh my God," I overhear him exclaim to the delivery guy in the hall, "Is that for *us*?")

My suspicion, then, is that this shiftless anomie also has a lot to do with the more reclusive partner in the songwriting duo, lead singer and group co-founder Chris Collingwood. A long-time resident of central Massachusetts, near Northampton ("He's kind of a small-town boy at heart"), Collingwood steps farther into the shadows here. He no longer attempts the shift into falsetto that allowed for æsthetic release on the group's previous albums, and he's also bequeathed the production duties to his partner. ("That's not to say that Chris is not capable, but it's just not something that he's particularly interested in.") Furthermore, at least two of Collingwood's compositions, "Hotel Majestic" and the lovely "Fire in the Canyon," seem to take the anomie very personally. "We've been wandering alone such a long time," he croons in the latter. "Lose our way as we go town to town/Believe us to be born in a path straight and narrow/On every crooked road we travel down."

This downer isn't fatal, and it's as bracing to hear in this sweet pop context as it would be in any anti-pop-rock maelstrom or dose of hip-hop fatalism. But as Schlesinger has recently been reminded, the road always circles back. And this enormously talented duo still have all kinds of time to follow it home. ◉

Pop Rocks

'People are always taking different exits. And then there are those of us who stay on and can't seem to get off because it means too much to us.'

A happy return

Wheat re-emerge as a duo

BY MATT ASHARE

The first time I met Wheat, they were a band on the rise. After a couple of releases on the Chicago-based indie Sugar Free, they'd been courted by majors who heard potential in singer-songwriter Scott Levesque's melancholy melodies and hopeful hooks, as well as the chemistry that brought them to life. Given that softer artists like Elliott Smith and Death Cab for Cutie were emerging in the wake of grunge's angst burnout, Columbia's Aware imprint was on target when it gambled on Wheat. After all, even if they weren't packing huge clubs in their home town, on their own they'd already drawn the interest of A-list producer Dave Fridmann, the former Mercury Rev bassist best known for working his warm magic with the Flaming Lips. And Brian Deck from the Chicago-based Red Red Meat had mixed Wheat's 1997 debut, *Medicine* (Sugar Free). So with their future looking bright, I'd been dispatched by *Spin* to get the story for one of those "bands to watch" features from three down-to-earth young men who seemed unaffected by hype. They were just looking forward to doing what they'd always done. Play gigs. Make music. Eat, sleep, tour . . .

Now I'm back at the Middle East with what remains of Wheat — Levesque and drummer Brendan Harney. They lost founding guitarist Ricky Brennan somewhere in the four years it took Sony to put its seal of approval on the mostly Dave Fridmann–produced *per second, per second, per second . . . every second*. The disc came out in November of 2003. Effort was made to build Wheat's base, with songs licensed to soundtracks ("Don't I Hold You" turned up in the film *Elizabethtown*). But something didn't happen — luck, being in the right place at the right time with the right song. Wheat ceased to exist as anything more than a very good idea that had come and then gone too quickly. But that's just the nature of the music business, right?

"Well," Levesque starts thoughtfully, taking care not to sound defensive, "when you say that something *didn't* happen, it's just that, well, the thing is that something *did* happen. That's the cool thing. I mean, we are where we are now because of all the things that *did* happen."

Harney: "It's something we were talking about in the car ride here. As a band we would never have learned the things that we know now about what this is about for us if we hadn't had those experiences. Because as a band you just take these steps. You don't really have any sense of what you want at first. And I would have never really known what I know now about what I like about what I do or why I do what I do with music."

FOXY Smart, skewed indie rock is still their MO.

So now Wheat are gearing up to play their first Boston-area show in years this Saturday at T.T. the Bear's Place. They've just released the EP/mini-album *that's exactly what i wanted . . . exactly that* on the Rhode Island indie Empyrean. In May, Empyrean will deliver the already completed full-length *everyday I said a prayer for kathy and made a one inch square*. As both titles suggest, the band's approach hasn't changed: smart, skewed indie rock is still their MO. And given the subtle psychedelic textures, the organic warmth, the naked vocals, and the clever use of experimental touches like the backwards guitar on the opening track ("What Everyone Keeps Telling Me"), I'd assumed Dave Fridmann was back too. But, as I discover, a number of my assumptions aren't right. Indeed, the band pretty much produced the disc themselves, with Levesque using a lo-fi eight-track machine to record some vocals, piano, and guitar before the rest of the recording commenced at a studio in Fairhaven.

As for the status of Wheat at any given point, it depends which guy you ask. Harney recalls an episode that sounds suspiciously like an ending. "I remember playing a show, getting out of the van, unloading our gear into our practice space, and thinking that I'll never get out of this van that way ever again." Levesque: "We couldn't finish the last song of the last show of that last tour we did after *per second*. We literally couldn't play. There were three of us in this little tiny room, and there was no way for us to go out without going through the crowd. And people were urging us to play more but I just couldn't . . . things had just gotten to such a weird point that I didn't know what to do."

Apparently that "weird point" didn't have anything to do with Brennan's departure. Levesque and Harney remind me that Wheat have always had a revolving cast of players. "The funny thing about music is that as you get older there's so few people doing it," Levesque says. "People take their exit eventually. It's kind of like a rotary. And people are always taking different exits. And then there are those of us who stay on and can't seem to get off because it means too much to us. With Rick, we had talked about him leaving before we even finished *per second*. He'd always talked about doing his own thing. So it wasn't just 'And then there were two.' It was more gradual."

He does concede that there was a breaking point. "There can only be one great love in your life. For me, I started doing more visual arts for a while, but I don't do a whole lot of painting now because of the band. I always have melodies in my head and a real yearning to make music. When you first start out, you have no other pulls on your time. But eventually you have to make big decisions. As much as you may feel like you're stuck once you've signed a contract, the truth is that if you don't want to work with somebody, you simply have to tell them that you don't want to work with them anymore. So we just said no more [to Aware]. First it was the Fox thing . . . "

The Fox thing?

"It was a Fox morning show that they [Aware] wanted us to do," Harney explains. "And we didn't want to do it. So we said no . . . And that's when you learn the power of the word no. But you have to be willing to cash in your chips when you use that word. And we had gotten to that point. I guess you can say we disappeared because we wanted to take a break."

Levesque attempts to clarify: "I've never been here or not here. We've been able to sort of be who we are when we want to. And we made a living doing that for a few years. When you're drawing a paycheck from it, it becomes a job, and you have to decide if this is what you want to do for work."

Making music is something Levesque and Harney are committed to whether it's a job or not. The title of *that's exactly what i wanted . . . exactly that* makes that clear. It's just five tracks, but from the very start, when a strummed acoustic guitar and a subtle rhythm emerge from an atmospheric backdrop as Levesque sings "You better use it/Or you're going to lose it," up through the synth-embellished, hard-driving "Little White Dove," with its stacked electric guitars, big backbeat, and poetic refrains, all the way to the instrumental piano étude that closes the disc on a lonely note, there's a tangible sense of purpose. And as melancholy as Levesque's writing and singing tends to be, there's also joy. In that sense, the EP anticipates the full-length both by touching on themes of loss and memory and by using acoustic guitar, piano, electric guitar, and less identifiable textured atmospheres as frameworks. It's experimental without being indulgent, challenging without being difficult — all of the elements that made Wheat so easy to embrace a decade ago.

"The reason we made the record," Levesque says of both discs, "is because a bunch of things came together. Like Brendan and I. It was like, logistically, I have two hands, and Brendan has two hands. I have a voice, and Brendan has a voice. Not to say that Ricky wasn't important. But I had a bunch of songs and we just went back to doing it the way we've always done it, only with two people instead of three." ⊙

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Producer

Boyd has produced everyone from Nick Drake and Pink Floyd to Billy Bragg and REM.

Éminence grise

Joe Boyd remembers; remembering Joe Boyd

BY DANA KLETTER

When I first met Joe Boyd, I knew him only as a legend, the force behind the psychedelic and folk-rock movements of the 1960s. I knew he had waded into the new scene, producing records for Billy Bragg and REM, but that didn't explain his interest in an unknown North Carolina all-girl punk-folk-pop trio called blackgirls, my band.

I still don't know how Joe found us. He just walked into our little den of punk-rock obscurity in a white linen suit. He was inscrutable, sitting on the floor of my almost empty apartment while we played our songs live because we didn't have a demo tape to give him. It was as if Otto Preminger had wandered onto the set of a student film shoot.

The blackgirls were considered unpredictable, weird, and confrontational. On stage it seemed as if we could implode at any minute. Our guitar player, who wore tiny mini-skirts without any underwear and flashed the audience at intervals, considered self-mutilation a viable alternative to stage patter. I sulked behind my hair and cried dark things into the microphone.

For all our mouthy, modern defiance, Joe's presence had a retrogressive effect on us. He was The Producer, and we became a girl group. We hid drug and drink problems from him. When our guitar player overdosed during mixing, we revived her, then hid her under the pool table at the studio and told Joe she had "allergies." After reading his memoir *White Bicycles: Making Music in the 1960s* (Serpent's Tail), I think now he would have understood, but at the time he seemed so grown up, and at 25 I was both scared and starstruck.

White Bicycles delivers an eyewitness report of the psychedelic era as dapper and self-assured as Joe himself. (He'll reminisce at Club Passim April 4, where I'll be joining him on stage along with the Silverleaf Gospel Singers.) Whoever doubted such a coherent account was possible is unacquainted with the kind of man who can both prep at Pomfret and plug in Dylan's guitar at Newport in 1965, delivering a convulsive dose of electroshock therapy to American folk music. Although he admits he indulged moderately in drugs, perhaps it was this combination of the patrician and the puritanical that kept Joe from going off the rails when everyone around him was tweaking madly. But in his autobiography Joe is a believer in the redemptive might of music at a crucial cultural and political juncture. He quotes Plato by way of Ginsberg to describe the revolutionary potential of music in 1967: "when the mode of the music changes, the walls of the city shake."

There was a time when a record producer was akin to a movie director. Material, artists, and artistic choices all funneled through the vision of the man (and it was always a man) behind the board. That's old school. But Joe Boyd is old school. Mention his name and you invoke the era of the auteur producer, also his mind-boggling association with a who's who: Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton, Nick Drake, Sandy Denny, the Incredible String Band, Fairport Convention, Steve Winwood, Richard and Linda Thompson, and more.

Joe's first job in the music business was squiring tours of blues and jazz greats around Europe: Muddy Waters, Brownie McGhee, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Coleman Hawkins, Roland Kirk. In between jaunts he stayed in London soaking up the diverse and open-minded atmosphere of the pop scene and the psychedelic underground. He fell in love with the great singers of British folk: the Watersons, Martin Carthy, Maddy Prior. The time was coming when there would be a convergence of all the music he loved — blues, rock, and folk from every imaginable province. Out of this union would emerge his two most famous (and tragic) discoveries, Nick Drake and Sandy Denny, whose recordings would establish him as the record producer he aspired to be.

In London, where the Boston-born Boyd settled, his partner for many recordings was the brilliant, curmudgeonly engineer John Wood, who Joe says could produce "aural Technicolor." They favored live resonant rooms with players performing together, as opposed to the dead spaces where people construct recordings these days, relying on digital boxes to supply a synthesized version of organic richness. "When John heard a sound he didn't like, he would lift his bulky frame off the chair and lumber down the stairs, muttering all the way. I began to be able to predict whether he was going to try a different microphone, reposition the existing one or shift the offending musician to another part of the studio."

Joe's ambition was to become an éminence grise. Rather than the Zelig figure reviewers compare him to, I think he recalls another middle-class American white man of an earlier generation, Carl Van Vechten, who immersed himself in a different counterculture, the Harlem Renaissance. Joe became the same kind of catalyst. Things *happened* when he was around. Van Vechten opted for the hedonism of cabaret life over more conformist expectations. Joe seemed to walk the same fine line, teetering between cool-headed anthropological observation and going completely native.

NEWPORT 1965 Joe (in the hat) with Eric Von Schmidt, Tom Rush, Geoff Muldaur, and Maria (Muldaur) d'Amato the year Joe plugged in Dylan's guitar.

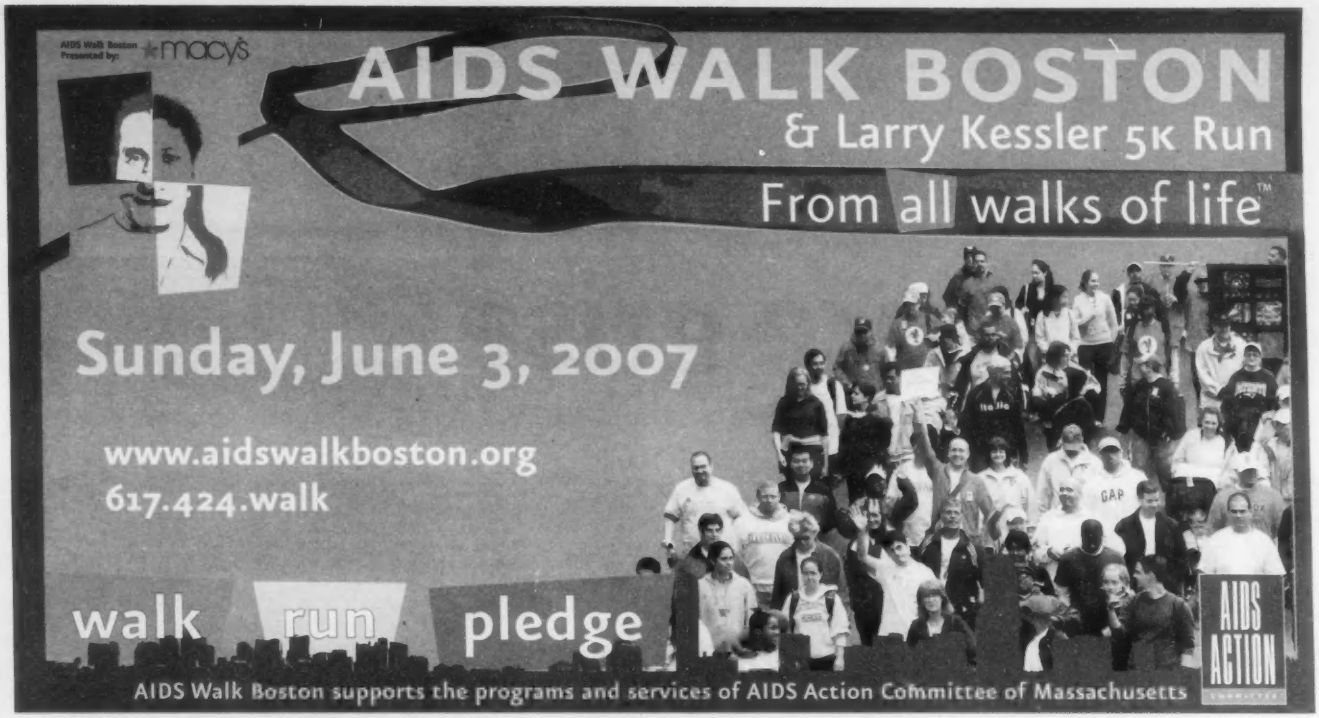
Joe describes the '60s as a moment when the "tide of history was with us and music was the key." He identifies the moment when the tide turned again. The "glorious optimism" of what he and his friends made was destroyed by "ugly drugs, violence, commercialism." In *White Bicycles*, which is named for the communally shared mode of conveyance used by Dutch anarchists in the '60s, he ties together his story and the story of his generation in a tight narrative that propels him from the Cambridge folk scene to Swinging London to Woodstock to Hollywood and back. He confines his chronicle so closely that people unfamiliar with his legacy might not know that, in fact, it continued on.

It was 1987, the era of Reagan and Thatcher, yuppies and smart bombs, when I met Joe. Far from the idealism and optimism he describes as the "*agape* spirit of 1967," punk rock was our anti-authoritarian alternative to mainstream crap. It varied from abstemious DC hardcore to LA heroin-fueled decadence and bled into the proto-indie jangle emerging from the South. This was our milieu. And soon enough, like Joe's revolutionary rock of the '60s, it would be co-opted.

Our recording sessions with Joe were conducted old-school style, microphones and musicians strategically placed around the room and then the tape would roll and you'd have three takes to bare your soul and get it right. I learned to hear and produce the warm true sound Joe strove for, to listen for a track that was deep and alive.

When Joe brought in John Wood to record the duo of my twin sister and me, their first work together in 20 years, we got a sample of what our heroes Nick Drake and Sandy Denny had experienced before us. "Sorry," we would say automatically into the microphone after a flubbed take. "Sorry never fucked the pig," John would respond gruffly and inexplicably. And Joe sat there like a psychoanalyst during the transference phase, mediating by emotional connection, a kind of love that ended when the session did. When the mixing began, Joe's psychic engagement in the process increased tenfold. More than once I went home with what I thought were final mixes only to discover that Joe had gone back into the studio and remixed the entire recording. There was something immensely subversive about maintaining this purist stance while all around us dabbled in the latest techniques, but that was in keeping with Joe's legacy. ◉

JOE BOYD | Club Passim, 47 Palmer St, Cambridge | April 4 | 617.492.7679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DJ

LP-LIKE It's not just "for the sake of variety" that there's variety on *Chromophobia*.

Technophilia

Brazil's Gui Boratto embraces IDM

_BY NICK SYLVESTER

The year being 2007, had I started off telling you this new Gui Boratto album is "intelligent dance music," you'd have stopped reading right then and there, maybe even logged onto your personal home computer and found a picture of me on-line and shopped some dude's bird in my mouth. IDM as a term was early-'90s DOA, a nice hook for PR onesheets that soon became anathema. Which is why we have all these people calling themselves "electronic artists," whatever that means. For all the fantastic music that found itself under its leaky umbrella — Aphex Twin, Boards of Canada, Mouse on Mars, the Warp label's mostly solid early catalogue — IDM is now a vicious slag, shorthand for boring, hookless abstract beats for the semi-pop turtleneck set.

This is as a good a time as any to mention that I still wear turtlenecks and listen to IDM from time to time, often both at once, but beyond that . . . maybe what I'm trying to say is that I don't expect full-length dance albums to be front-to-back bangers. Leave that for DJ mixes. So *Chromophobia* (Kompact) is IDM to my ears because sometimes Gui Boratto takes up electronic dance music's function (*i.e.*, to induce dancing) and other times he explores the genre's form (*i.e.*, techno's traditional rhythms and sounds and textures and ornaments and tempos that combine and recombine to form our favorite tracks). What makes it "intelligent" is that it's up to the listener to separate form from function. Boratto's more abstract tracks give breadth and depth and back story to the album's many floor killers.

I say "techno" because *Chromophobia* strikes me as very second-wave Detroit, very Jeff Mills, the way the overture of synths in "Scene" cascades in couplets, the way the bass rumbles and rattles across the pan without being too ravy about it. Boratto's tones are softer on the ear (Mills's pricked mine into Pong-like paranoia), and his best tracks are just funkier. Highlights include "Shebang," whose rubber-ball rhythms respond/react until the whole thing switches over to a devastating, monolithic 6/4 shuffle, and the nervous waterdrop hook on "Cate 7," and "Terminal," which has this fearless ascending melody that reminds me of Booka Shade's "Mandarine Girl," soon slurping its way into another register.

Maybe also it's just that Boratto makes more pleasant music than Mills, pop songs even; "Beautiful Life" is blissed out in major-key fuzz and served up with one massively silly vocal hook. Still, what I like about my Mills/Boratto comparison is the tug-of-war pacing both artists trade in LP-wise, how introspective moments like the deliberate piano melody of "Mala Strana" and the filter-heavy swirls of "Acrostico" snuggle between stompers without upending cohesion or flow. It's not just "for the sake of variety" that there's variety here.

Granted, *Chromophobia* is no more an IDM disc than any other recent ones that would might also fit my fat bill: Isolee's *Wearemonster*, Booka Shade's *Movements*, Trentemøller's *The Last Resort*, Ricardo Villalobos's *Alchachofa*. But my sense is these Real Dance Producers' dance/not-dance albums are gaining popularity as an Other in the indie-rock crowd: their sound is often very pretty and their rhythms engage in ways that lots of current indie rock is not and does not — to say nothing of most indie-dance remixes and the Franco-filter-metal stuff, which people seem to be figuring out fails as both dance music and indie rock. That's how IDM functioned the first time round for me at least, as an Other, and an entry way — so let's spare ourselves the neu-backlash and just listen. ◉

Live and On Record

GILBERTO GIL
THE SINGING STATESMAN
ZEITERION THEATRE | MARCH 21

It was understandable when Gilberto Gil momentarily forgot what town he was in a week ago Thursday. "It's good to be here," he said from the stage of the Zeiterion Theatre in New Bedford, "in . . . the Boston area." On previous stops the tour had been to Carnegie Hall. And everyone knows how you get to Carnegie Hall. But how do you get to the Zeiterion? Still, it's hard to imagine a better setting for the generous show that followed — a two-hour solo performance by one of Brazil's greatest singer-songwriters, in a 1920s vaudeville house at the heart of Lusophone Massachusetts packed with a knowledgeable crowd who were hushed when Gil wanted to sing quietly and raucous when he asked them to sing along.

Accompanying himself with a nylon-string guitar, Gil was relaxed and happy on his first solo tour ever. Lately, he's scaled back his musical activities for the sake of public service. Once an enemy of the Brazilian state (he and his comrade in cultural agitation, Caetano Veloso, were exiled by the military dictatorship of the late '60s), he now serves as Minister of Culture in President Lula da Silva's socialist government. So he's had to put aside songwriting. "Songwriting takes so much concentration," he sighed.

He played many of his own samba and pop classics: "Aquele abraço," "Expresso 2222," "Palco." He paid tribute to the Beatles ("When I'm 64" reimagined as bossa nova), Agustín Lara ("Farolito"), and Bob Marley ("Three Little Birds" as well as Gil's hit version of "No Woman No Cry," which the crowd sang along to in Portuguese). His affinity for McCartney melodies resurfaced when he playfully whistled "Penny Lane" over one of his own sambas.

On guitar, Gil glided from subtle bossa nova to a ferocious rhythmic strum. His voice operated in three distinct ranges: a high, thin, near-falsetto that he used for yelps and onomatopœic cries as well as some of his most ornate melodies; a baritone that crooned simpler tunes, prettily, in an almost Nat King Cole manner; a low, close-to-the-mic tone that he used for somber and at times chilling effects. When near the end he gave a shout-out to New Bedford, working the town into a lyric alongside Bahia and Luanda, the statesman and the showman combined into one.

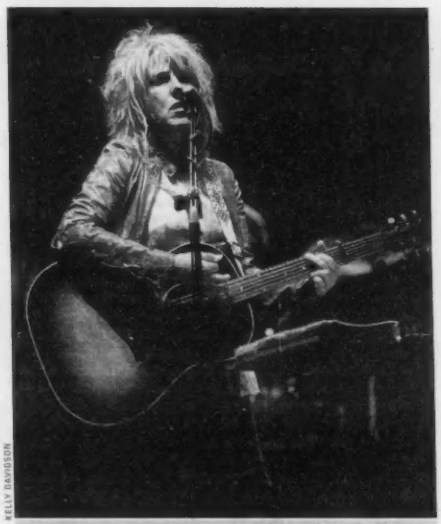
_Damon Krukowski

YOUNG KNIVES
BRITISH INFLATION
HARPERS FERRY | MARCH 21

After a rollicking set from local Anglophile neo-new wavers Protokoll a week ago Wednesday at Harpers Ferry, the buzzed-about British trio Young Knives took the stage to introduce themselves to Boston. (They'd had to cancel a local show earlier this month.) Wearing neckties like proper English chums, the gangly lads — frontman guitarist Henry Dartnall, with his thick Oxford accent; his brother Thomas on bass; drummer Oliver Askew ("the handsome one," Henry joked) — rocked as if it were 1979, playing a raucous yet danceable post-punk set that slowly won over the sparse crowd. Thomas Dartnall showed the most impressive technique, kicking off track after track with propulsive bass rhythms. The Knives pumped singles "The Decision" and "She's Attracted To" out into the cavernous room, seemingly to no avail; then they ripped the new "Fit for You." With Thomas slapping his white bass and Henry shouting "What are you running from!" into the mic, it began to seem that they really could be the next big British thing. (Expect "Fit for You" to be coming to the play list at your local Urban Outfitters any day now.)

They're unabashed about their devotion to Gang of Four; they even got Andy Gill to produce on their new *Voices of Animals and Men* (Rykodisc). Sure enough, the Harpers set was full of sharp, slicing guitars, funky bass lines, and tight, polished rhythms. And, fresh from South by Southwest, they drew enough local hipsters — like a duo dressed in British hoops — that word of mouth should ensure a bigger crowd the next time they come to town.

_David Day



KELLY DAVIDSON

DARK ROOTS No matter how rocking Williams gets, her touchstones remain "Delta blues, country, and folk."

LUCINDA WILLIAMS
STILL GOING STRONG
ORPHEUM THEATRE | MARCH 24

"It's not that often that a 54-year-old woman achieves her greatest success," said Lucinda Williams from the Orpheum stage last Saturday, referring to the trajectory of her career. "It's about the talent, about the work. Thanks for letting me into the fold." That career was jump-started in 1998 by *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road* (Mercury), an album that came out in the wake of Mary Chapin Carpenter's hit of the Williams-penned "Passionate Kisses." But the tide keeps rising. Williams — sporting a blond shag, baby-doll tunic, jeans, and brown leather jacket — sold out the Orpheum, and she drew from her latest, the mournful, pensive, and often ambient *West* (Lost Highway). But she didn't emphasize it or even plug it. Before an encore of Skip James's "Hard Time Killing Floor Blues," she made a point of restating her influences — "Delta blues, country, and folk — it's all still there." So, yes, on the Hal Willner–produced *West*, she does move toward Marianne Faithfull/Lou Reed territory. But she's still entrenched in alt-country/roots rock.

Backed by guitarist Doug Pettibone, drummer Don Heffington, and new bassist David Sutton, she began quietly, seductively, with the soft sting of "Rescue," and she ended that way too. These were literate, melancholy songs in the key of languid. Songs about loss, coping, wreckage. "Learning How To Live" was wrenching in both its pain and its acceptance. "Essence" began with a plea for a lover's dominance and ended with the singer asking him to help her "get fucked up."

The rocking came mid set; the highlights included "Come On," which she described as "a take-off on '70s cock rock." She moved from strutting confidence to palpable fragility; the baggage, she makes it clear, is there, but so are the hopes and dreams. Even her most blistering rock has a melancholy subtext. She doesn't give in to unbridled happiness; neither does she let the demons beat her down.

_Jim Sullivan

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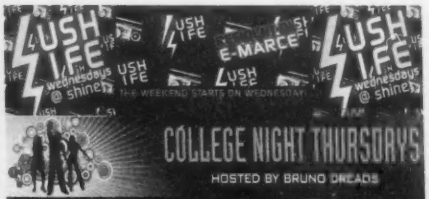

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POP

⊕⊕⊖ **STARS OF TRACK AND FIELD | CENTURIES BEFORE LOVE AND WAR** | Wind-Up | This Portland trio lifted its name from a song by Belle and Sebastian, but on their debut full-length, Stars of Track and Field make a sound much bigger than B&S's tidy twee-pop shuffle. *Centuries Before Love and War* is full of sweeping, dramatic guitar-rock ballads in the key of U2; though they're currently pounding the pavement on the mid-level indie-club circuit, these guys aspire to play arenas, where songs expand into celebrations. (Celebrations of what? Oh, the usual: "birds watching from the lines," "pieces of you in us all," "white noise from telephones.") The tunes aren't always up to the supersized treatment, but producer Tony Lash (Elliott Smith's old mate in Portland's Heatmiser) helps the group bring out the modest gift they do have for this kind of stuff, as in "With You," where they work up to a dizzying climax of guitar, piano, and interwoven harmony vocals. It's real grandeur, minus the delusion.

_Mikael Wood

STARS OF TRACK AND FIELD + THE LONG WINTERS | Great Scott, 1222 Comm Ave., Allston | March 29 | 617.566.5014

⊕⊕⊕ **ADULT. | WHY BOTHER?** | Thrill Jockey | Whittled back down to a duo following the departure last year of guitarist Sam Consiglio (he wasn't around long anyway, bringing his six-string noise terror only to 2005's *D.U.M.E.* EP and the full-length *Gimme Trouble*), Detroit electro-provocateurs Adult. continue to run away from the catchier, clubbier colors of their early work and toward a more abrasive, cacophonous form of industrial dance punk designed for, as they put it, "uneasy listening." Demented wedded couple Nicola Kuperus and Adam Lee Miller here favor malevolent, stomach-churning synth bleats and clattering, cold-sweat-inducing beats, with rare moments of melody coming courtesy of Miller's flanged bass line. Kuperus used to sing with all the passion of an automated voice-mail greeting; that detachment thing was part of Adult.'s shtick. But someone must've poured water on her circuit boards — on "I Feel Worse When I'm with You" and "You Don't Worry Enough" she's freaky-deaky shrieky and totally haywire. I'm no glutton for punishment, but there's something oddly accessible about the mess the duo make on *Why Bother?*

_Michael Alan Goldberg

JAZZ

⊕⊕⊕ **ROBERT GLASPER | IN MY ELEMENT** | Blue Note | In a lot of ways, 28-year-old pianist Glasper's band with bassist Vicente Archer and drummer Damion Reid is right in the pocket of the modern piano-trio tradition: elastic three-way conversations among acoustic instruments. And a medium-tempo dance like Glasper's "One for 'Crew'" (for Mulgrew Miller) bears that out: an easy 4/4 over Latin accents. But more typical is the opener, "CAB," which toggles between the title keys, the tease of a melody cycling through an odd-metered groove. Glasper prefers fragmented statements, short bursts of notes, and slow-developing group narratives to long-lined eighth-note solos. Instead, he, Archer, and Reid create engines of contrary motion, tugging the rhythm and harmony every which way — the fast drum 'n' bass patter of Archer's snare and kick, Reid's lurching syncopations, Glasper stating and eliding the beat. The linear statements come in short right-hand machine-gun bursts; the left-hand chords don't merely outline the harmonic shape of the piece, they offer commentary — reassuring or mournful — to the agitation in the right. Sometimes the beat breaks into hip-hop (there's a piece by J Dilla), elsewhere into unabashed romantic balladry (Radiohead's "Everything in its Right Place" mashed with Herbie Hancock's "Maiden Voyage"). Glasper's transparent surfaces reveal roiling depths.

_Jon Garelick

COMPILATIONS

⊕⊕⊕ **CIBO MATTO | POM POM: THE ESSENTIAL CIBO MATTO** | Warner Bros./Rhino | This kind of collection is made for bands like Cibo Matto whose expansive musical vision is spread across a petite discography (two albums and an EP, in this case) — you really can fit all of the hipster downtown NYC-by-way-of-Japan duo's essential tracks on one disc without leaving anything out. Pom Pom is also well timed: Cibo Matto may have called it quits in 2001, but they were ahead of their time in their playfully omnivorous Gorillaz-style approach to pomo pop, borrowing from as far and wide as breakbeats, Bacharach, and Brazil to create pop confections somewhere just to the left of Beck. Yet for all the experimentalism of Yuka Honda's mix-and-match productions, the songs here remain accessible. "Sugar Water," with its trip-hop beat, ethereal vocal harmonies set back in the mix, and half-sung, half-spoken vocals delivered in Miho Hatori's best little-girl voice, brings to mind Björk. Elsewhere, everything from hip-hop beats and scratching to nylon-string acoustic guitars helps create elaborate, melodic soundscapes for Hatori to sing in English, French, and Japanese about "Sci-Fi Wasabi" and what it takes to "Know Your Chicken." Of the two previously unreleased tracks, only a Dan the Automator remix of "King of Silence" is revelatory — mostly because Dan and Hatori would go on to collaborate in the first version of Damon Albarn's Gorillaz.

_Matt Ashare

DANCE

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **DUBFIRE | TAIPEI** | Global Underground | Those who saw Dubfire in Boston last September will be surprised by the sound of these two sets. At Avalon, he played almost exclusively trance, techno, and "electro" house; here, playing for audiences in Taipei (a house destination as major for Asia as Ibiza is for Europe), he emphasizes deep, sexy beats, "tribal" house (DJ Simi & DJ Maurizia's "My House"), even vocals. (Can't imagine Dubfire using a track by garage-house classicist Kerri Chandler? Try "So Let the Wind Come.") What hasn't changed is his attraction to hits — dance-floor hits, that is. He includes Lance Jordan's "Sun Is Rising," Beetsen's "The Afterlife," and Lula's "The DJ, The Music & Me" on disc 1, and Nitzer Ebb's "Control I'm Here," Nic Fanciulli's "Lucky Heather," Noir's "My MTV," superstar DJ Robbie Rivera's "Float Away," and Lisbon "Portuguese tribal" master DJ Vibe's "You' Kass" on disc 2. Occasionally the familiar, electro-to-techno Dubfire breaks forth, but now in German "minimal" (X-Press 2's "Kill 100" on the first CD, Len Faki's "Die Rumpelkammer" on the second). And the familiar Dubfire sound actually comes out stronger in this diverse sonic company than it did in the mere-focused confines of his Avalon evening.

_Michael Freedberg

DUBFIRE | Avalon, 15 Lansdowne Street, Boston | April 6 | 617.931.2000.

⊕⊖ **SHOUT OUT OUT OUT | NOT SAYING JUST SAYING** | Nimis Wism | When word comes down that there's a live electro-house band making the scene, techno purists like me groan. Trans Am and Viet or Beta pull it off with aplomb, but jam bands like Sound Tribe Sector 9 push the garish trance elements to the limit. Canada's Shout Out Out Out are somewhere in the middle; the six-piece are clearly hip in some circles, but their goofy lyrics betray them. "Dude You Feel Electrical" sounds too much like a bad joke by the Faint, and despite their pledge to house and techno, most of the tracks plod along at the pace of rock songs. A certain love vibe does emanate, and you can tell they'd be a ton of fun on stage. (Check the cowbell action on "Self Loathing Rulz.") But for dance music and tech-house elements, your regular studio producers turn it out much better, and with less affectation.

_David Day

URL addresses for all downloads are available at **www.thephoenix.com/download**

Download

_BY DAVID DAY

Booka Shade

Last week, Miami hosted the Winter Music Conference, a huge festival celebrating the year to come in dance music. Lovers of house, techno, breaks, and most every other subgenre gathered to dance on the beach and in clubs from sun-up to sundown to sun-up again. An army of Bostonians represented our burgeoning party scene, and we heard from a few partygoers about what popped and what didn't. Here's a sampling from those that did, and links to buy them off digital dance warehouse Beatport.

⊕⊕⊕⊕

Booka Shade

"MANDERINE GIRL"

"Booka Shade annihilated Studio A last night," text-messages Red Foxxworth. It's quite possible they brought the house down. The German duo, part proprietors of the excellent Get Physical label, play live instruments when they play, and the performance is always exquisite. "Manderine Girl" is their signature track: an unstoppable force of electro-house that builds up as it breaks down.

⊕⊕

Audion

"MUND ZU MUND"

People were looking forward to the Spectral Sound Social on Friday as much as they were talking about Matthew Dear's recent appearance at Phoenix Landing. Dear makes techno as Audion, and this track is his own rework of his big hit "Mouth to Mouth." With a razor's edge, he goes in and flips the track into a minimal giant with a vertigo-inducing bass line.

⊕⊕⊕

Dennis Ferrer

"TOUCH THE SKY"

DJ Bruno came back for his paycheck Top 40 gigs at Boston Rocks, but even early in the week, he reports over the phone, "there were a lot of really good parties. One was the Shelter party. Above and beyond the call of duty. The energy there was amazing; they sang every word, it was like going to church. The one big track was Dennis Ferrer's 'Touch the Sky' . . . that track was everywhere." Ferrer's uplifting piece of deep house is lovely indeed.

⊕⊕⊕

Boys Noize

"DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE (SURKIN REMIX 2)"

Red Foxxworth was in Miami to play with perhaps the hottest name in electro today. Alex Ridha is the man behind Boys Noize, and making raucous, jamming rock-techno tracks is what has him on everyone's tongue. This is a remix of the first single off his upcoming album; Surkin, a Parisian talent on the rise, does a smooth job, limiting Ridha's usual redline massacre to something a little more appetizing.

RHYTHM PLAYER What jazz pianist besides Glasper draws from Radiohead *and* J Dilla?

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Saturday 3.31.07
PEELANDER-Z, ROBBY
ROAD STEAMER, BAD ASH,
GONNA GET GOT - 9pm

Sunday 4.01.07
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Listings

CLUBS

THURSDAY 29

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | Giant Squid + Cheater Pint + Crayceon + Jason Bennet & the Resistance | Pub Stage | Da Blues Preacher

ACTON JAZZ CAFE | Acton | 6:30 pm | Laird Nelson | 8:30 pm | "Blues Jam" with B.J. Magoon & Friends

ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | Jamaica Plain | Rockabilly

AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | 7:30 pm | "Folk Open Mic" with Terence Hegarty + Dan Chartier

AN TAIN | Boston | 5 pm | DJ Keith

AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Hip-Hop & Top 40" with DJ Howie

ARIA | Boston | DJ Kon

ASGARD | Cambridge | 10 pm | Paul Fudin Duo

BILL'S BAR | Boston | Roy Davies & the Hillbillies + Josh Buckley & the Gilded Splinters + Jake Roche Band

BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | Boston | 7 pm | Lori Dow

BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | 5 pm | "After Work Thursday"

BULFINCH YACHT CLUB | Boston | Epidemic + Slurred Murrays + Bags & Rats + Fetish Chicken

BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 10 pm | Swinging Johnsons

CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | "Chicken Slacks Soul, R&B & Funk Dance Party"

CLUB 58 | Quincy | Owen Kelliher Band

CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | Rose Cousins

COLONIAL INN | Concord | Bret Talbert

COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Lose Night" 80s, all vinyl with DJ Brian

CONNERY'S INN | Framingham | "Open Mic"

DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Chart & Dance" with DJ Doc

DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | 7 pm | "Live Karaoke" with Brick Park

DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | Chris Fitz

DRUID | Cambridge | 10 pm | Nightime Gallagher

EMBASSY | Boston | "The Glamorous Life" hip-hop & electro party with DJs Susan Esthera + Aphrodite

ENCORE | Boston | Rich Dimare

ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | DJ Rugged One

FELT | Boston | "True Music" with Emily Green

FLANN O'BRIEN'S | Boston | Acoustiknoodl

GOOD LIFE | Boston | Universal Truth

GREAT SCOTT | Allston | "Fenway Recording Sessions" with Long Winters + Broken West + Stars of Track & Field + DJ Carbo

GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | DJ JFK

GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Spitting Vinnies

HANNAH'S | Somerville | Reggae and house with guest DJs

HARPERS FERRY | Allston | 3rd Left + OSB + Welcome to Florida + Pest-House |

HENNESSY'S | Boston | Upstairs | Static of the Gods + Thick as Thieves + Brad Byrd + Gravehaven | Downstairs | Flyswitch

HONG KONG @ FANEUIL HALL | Boston | "Hip-Hop Thursday"

JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Bittersweets + Remp Harris

JOSE McINTYRE'S | Boston | Upstairs | DJ John Tringali | Downstairs | Me & Julio

KELLS | Allston | "Fun House" with DJs Edgar + Kieran James

KINGS | Boston | 10 pm | "Karaoke Idol"

KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | JHW & the Thunderhands + Decliners + Judy C + Brooklyns

LA LUNA CAFE | Cambridge | Caminhos Cruzados with Evelyn Rosenthal

LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Ed Harlow Trio

MANTRA | Boston | 10:30 pm | "Mantra Thursday" eclectic international, vocal house, hip-hop

MARCO POLO | Ipswich | Soul Band

MATT MURPHY'S | Brookline | Wild Sextet

MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | "Continental Drift: Live African Music" with Kalifa & Koliba

MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | Jedi Mind Tricks + Sean Price + Reef the Lost Cause

MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Sterns + Midnight Creeps + Cane Dante & the Future Starlets + After Hours

MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | "Make It New" electronic dance music with David Day

MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Women's Dance Night + Queeraoke"

MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 10:30 pm | Michael Hensley

MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | Boston | Al Vega Trio

PADDY O'S | Boston | "College Night" with DJ Select

PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | "Rock 4 Peace" with Primary Others + Rams! + Kat Mulleavey

PARRIS | Boston | Second Chance

P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Lost in the Trees + Chairlift + Elizabeth Butters & Shawn Creeden

PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Elements" drum n bass with DJs Crook + Lenore + MDoc

PUGLIESE'S BAR AND GRILL | Cambridge | "Open Mic" with Mike Mayne

PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | DJ Flanagan + Jim Plunkett

REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Reunion"

REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 + 10 pm | Irma Thomas

RIVER GODS | Cambridge | DJ Bullitt + Selector 70

ROGGIE'S | Brighton | Lounge | Tribal house, break beat funk with DJ Jonathan Theory

RUBY ROOM | Boston | "Rouge Thursday" with DJ Prolific

RYLES | Cambridge | Ed Spargo + Paul Speidel

SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | Jennifer Matthues Band

SAMBA BAR & GRILL | Somerville | 9 pm | Hip-hop, reggae, reggaeton with DJ Philippe

SCULLERS | Boston | 8 + 10 pm | David Benoit

SKY BAR | Somerville | Cameron Nielson + Big Name + Big City/Wigspilta + DJ Big Torm + DJ Cuzqz

SOLSTICE CAFE | Boston | 10 pm | "Jazz Jam Session" with Pamella & Larson Trio

SUGAR SHACK | Boston | "College Night" with DJ B-Spin

TAP | Boston | DJ Thom

TERRACE BAR | Boston | 7 pm | Eric McFadden

TIMES | Boston | 6 pm | Frank Morey & His Band | 9:30 | "Open Mic" with Jon Titone

TOAST | Somerville | "Twisted Thursday College Night" hip-hop, Top 40 with DJ 9-1

TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Timewarp Thursday" with Taint | midnight | DJ Special K

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Max C & the Spots + Rising Sons + Pilot Light + Scuba

21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly

VAPOR | Boston | "MOCCA" hip-hop, R&B with DJs KC + Ben Steel

VENU | Boston | "Venu Thursday" | Room 1 | "Hip-hop, reggae, reggaeton" | Room 2 | "Salsa, merengue"

VERTIGO | Boston | DJs Pup Dawg + Swissivory

WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Francisco Mela Quintet

WESTERN FRONT | Cambridge | "Circle"

WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | Top 40, funk, dance with DJs Gabe + Lazec Boy

WONDER BAR | Allston | Upstairs | "Trend" with DJ Braun Johnson | Lounge | "Fly Thursdays" with Drop tha Beat Productions

ZUZU | Cambridge | A.K.A.C.O.D.

FRIDAY 30

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | S.W.A.G.C. + McCunks + Miss Syndicate + Stern 76 | Pub Stage | Johnny Swagger

ACTON JAZZ CAFE | Acton | 7 pm | Bring Back Pluto | 9:30 pm | Phil Argyris Group

ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | Jamaica Plain | 6:30 pm | DJ Michael | 10 pm | DJ Arya

AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | Dominique Eade

AN TAIN | Boston | 5 pm | DJ Sean O | 10 pm | DJ David Natola

AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Hip-Hop, Disco, Techno, R&B, Top 40" with DJs Tim Collins + John Dow

ARIA | Boston | "Foundation Friday" with DJ Klutch

ASGARD | Cambridge | 10 pm | DJ Dave M

AVALON | Boston | 10 pm | Junkie XL

AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | "Mash Up" with DJ Mastermillions

BAD ABBOTS | Quincy | Burnt Toast

BIG EASY | Boston | "Mardi Gras Friday"

BILL'S BAR | Boston | Papermoon + Daniel Byrnes Trio

BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | Ceilmeccili dance, R&B

BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | Boston | 7:30pm | Elan Trotman Quartet

BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | Top 40, dance, hip-hop with DJ Bruno

BULFINCH YACHT CLUB | Boston | Tenefly vipers + Peasants + Liz Borden Band + Jake & the Jakes

CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | Diane Rizz & the Fatback Band

CHICKEN BONE | Framingham | Cosmic Igloo

CLUB 58 | Quincy | Breaking Point

CLUB MIRAGE | Boston | "Flow Friday"

COLONIAL INN | Concord | John Fitzsimmons & Friends

COMMON GROUND | Allston | "My So-Called 90s Night" with DJ Phat Mike

DANTE'S @ FIREFLY | Marlborough | Smoking Joe Kubek

DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Uptempo House" with DJ Paul Dailey

DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | "Swing Night" with Family Jewels

DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | Captain Cutthroat

DRUID | Cambridge | 6 pm | "Traditional Irish Session with Peter Molloy & Friends

EMBASSY | Boston | 10 pm | Hip-hop with DJ Just Nyce

ENCORE | Boston | "Open Mic" with Colleen Powers

ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | Morgan Louis + Red Force

FELT | Boston | "Heated Friday" with DJ Vlassie

GOOD LIFE | Boston | DJ Bob Diesel

GREAT SCOTT | Allston | "The Pill" with Informatics + DJ Ken + DJ Vanya

GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | DJ Cage

G-SPOT | Boston | "Deep, Sexy House" with DJs Mike Traylor + Paul Incus

HARPERS FERRY | Allston | AndWurr + White + Morgan Knickers

HARP | Boston | Go Go Cadjet

HENNESSY'S | Boston | Me & Julio

I/O | Boston | 10 pm | "Riddim Fridays" with Evalast Movement + Selecta J. Cool

INTERNATIONAL | Boston | "The Basement" house music with DJ Bradford James

JOE TECCE'S RISTORANTE | Boston | 7 pm | Rose Jamieson & Rick Schilling

JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 9:45 pm | Slavic Soul Party + Vibewise + Funky White Honkies

JUKEBOX | Boston | Top 40, retro dance

KELLS | Allston | "Ladies Night" with DJs Doc + Grasshopper

KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | Allstonians + Couper Brothers + Mickey Bliss Organ Combo

LA LUNA CAFE | Cambridge | 7 pm | Grass Gypsys

LANDING @ 7 CENTRAL | Manchester | Erinn Brown

LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Ronnie Burn Trio

LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | Ray Mason Band

LUPO'S @ THE STRAND | Providence, RI | Clipse

MARBLEHEAD LANDING | Marblehead | Zacklys

MATT MURPHY'S | Brookline | Pub Records

MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | Atlas Soul

MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | Cold War Kids + Tokyo Police Club + Delta Spirit

MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Birdmonster + Mason Proper + Ra Ra Riot + Shills

MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | DJ Knife

MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | Big Big Bucks + Desert Sea + Halfnelsons + Movers & Shakers

PALLADIUM | Worcester | Philip Anselmo + Pepper Keenan + Rex Brown + Kirk Windstein + Jimmy Bower

PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Alternate Routes + Mieka Pauley

PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | Sebadoh + Bent Moustache

PARRIS | Boston | Star 69

P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Tom Thumb + E.R. & the New Jerseys + Satellite Lot + Mitchells

PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Pretty Little Things" with DJ Vinny

PLACE | Boston | 10 pm | VJ Laptop

REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 + 10 pm | Irma Thomas

RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "An Evening with Raleigh Fingers"

ROGGIE'S | Brighton | Upstairs | All | Lounge | "Dance Your Ass Off" with DJ Hoff

ROXY | Boston | 10 pm | "Sexy Friday" with DJ Val Beatz

RUMOR | Boston | "The Zoo" with Sam Bokel + Scott Farrell

RYLES | Cambridge | Julian Lage

SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 6 pm | Larry Flint & the Road Scholars | 9 pm | Lorntell Showcase

SCRUFFY MURPHY'S | Dorchester | "Party Time" with DJ Jen

SCULLERS | Boston | 8 + 10:30 pm | David Benoit

SIT N BULL PUB | Maynard | Playin' Dead

SKY BAR | Somerville | Limitations + Tim Mungenast + Shotgun Bandits

SUGAR SHACK | Boston | "Boston's A-List" hip-hop, old school, and Top 40 with DJ B-Spin

TERRACE BAR | Boston | Groove Alliance

TOAST | Somerville | "Dyke Night"

TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Jo Henley + Tin Can Tele | midnight | DJ Uppercut

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Robyn Hitchcock & the Venus 3 + Johanna Kunin

21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly

UMBRIA ULTRA LOUNGE & NIGHTCLUB | Boston | Third Floor | House | Fourth + Fifth Floors | Hip-hop, Top 40

VENU | Boston | "Roomba" Latin sounds with DJ Roger M + house with DJ Arnit

CLUB DIRECTORY

ABBEY LOUNGE | 617.441.9631 | 3 Beacon St, Somerville
ACTON JAZZ CAFE | 978.263.6161 | 452 Great Rd, Acton
ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | 617.477.5741 | 435 South Huntington Ave, Jamaica Plain
AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | 508.405.ARTS | 111 Nicholas Rd, Framingham
AN TAIN | 617.426.1870 | 31 India St, Boston
ANTHEM | 617.523.8383 | 138 Portland St, Boston
AN TUA NUA | 617.262.2121 | 835 Beacon St, Boston
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ARSENAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 617.923.0100 | 321 Arsenal St, Watertown
ASGARD | 617.577.9100 | 250 Main Ave, Cambridge
AVALON | 617.262.2424 | 15 Lansdowne St, Boston
AXIS | 617.262.2437 | 13 Lansdowne St, Boston
BAD ABBOTS | 617.774.1434 | 1546 Hancock St, Quincy
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BLARNEY STONE PUB | 617.436.8223 | 1505 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | 617.536.6204 | 604 Columbus Ave, Boston
BOSTON ROCKS | 617.726.1110 | Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston
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DANTE'S @ FIREFLY | 508.357.8883 | 350 East Main St, Marlborough
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | 617.779.8822 | 332 Washington St, Brighton
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT @ REMINGTON'S | 617.482.0110 | 124 Boylston St, Boston
DICK'S LAST RESORT | 617.267.8080 | Quincy Market, Boston
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | 978.745.0139 | 7 Dodge St, Salem
DRUID | 617.497.0965 | 1357 Cambridge St, Cambridge
EMBASSY | 617.536.2100 | 30 Lansdowne St, Boston
EMERALD ISLE | 617.288.0010 | 1501 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
ENCORE | 617.7282162 | 279 Tremont St, Boston
ENORMOUS ROOM | 617.491.5599 | 567 Mass Ave, Cambridge
FELT | 617.338.6999 | 533 Washington St, Boston
FIRE + ICE | 617.482.FIRE | 205 Berkeley St, Boston
FIREFLY'S BBQ | 508.820.3333 | 235 Old Connecticut Path, Framingham
FLANN O'BRIEN'S | 617.566.7744 | 1619 Tremont St, Mission Hill Boston
GOOD LIFE | 617.451.2622 | 28 Kingston St, Boston
GRAFTON STREET PUB & GRILL | 617.497.0400 | 1230 Mass Ave, Cambridge
GREAT SCOTT | 617.734.4502 | 1222 Comm Ave, Allston
GREEN BRIAR | 617.789.4100 | 304 Washington St, Brighton
GREEN DRAGON | 617.367.0055 | 11 Marshall St, Boston
GROG | 978.465.8008 | 13 Middle St, Newburyport
G-SPOT | 617.423.6767 | Downtown Crossing, Boston
HANNAH'S | 617.629.5302 | 479 Broadway, Somerville
HARPERS FERRY | 617.254.9743 | 158 Brighton Ave, Allston
HARP | 617.742.1010 | 85 Causeway St, Boston
HENNESSY'S | 617.742.2121 | 25 Union St, Boston
HONG KONG @ FANEUIL HALL | 617.227.2226 | 65 Chatham St, Boston
I/O | 617.262.2437 | 13 Lansdowne St, Boston
IMPROV ASYLUM | 617.263.6887 | 216 Hanover St, Boston
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 617.576.1253 | 1253 Cambridge St, Cambridge
INTERNATIONAL | 617.296.6270 | 184 High St, Boston
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | 413.584.0610 | 20 Center St, Northampton
JEANIE JOHNSTON PUB | 617.983.9432 | 144 South St, Jamaica Plain
JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY | 617.591.1616 | 255 Elm St, Somerville
JOE TECCE'S RISTORANTE | 617.742.6210 | 61 North Washington St, Boston
JOHNNY D'S | 617.776.2004 | 17 Holland St, Davis Square, Somerville
JOSE McINTYRE'S | 617.451.9460 | 160 Milk St, Boston
JUKEBOX | 617.338.ROXY | 275 Tremont St, Boston
KELLS | 617.782.9082 | 161 Brighton Ave, Allston
KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN | 617.426.3333 | 42 Province St, Boston
KINGS | 617.266.2695 | 10 Scotia St, Boston
KIRKLAND CAFE | 617.491.9640 | 425 Washington St, Somerville
LA LUNA CAFE | 617.576.3400 | 403 Mass Ave, Cambridge
LANDING @ 7 CENTRAL | 978.526.7494 | 7 Central St, Manchester
LES ZYGOMATES | 617.542.5108 | 129 South St, Boston
LILY PAD | 617.395.1393 | 1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge
LIZARD LOUNGE | 617.547.0759 | 1667 Mass Ave, below Cambridge Common Restaurant, Cambridge
LUPO'S @ THE STRAND | 401.272.5876 | 79 Washington St, Providence, RI
MANTRA | 617.542.8111 | 52 Temple St, Boston
MARBLEHEAD LANDING | 781.639.1266 | 81 Front St, Marblehead
MARCO POLO | 978.356.0277 | 131 High St, Ipswich
MATRIX | 617.338.ROXY | 275 Tremont St, Boston
MATT MURPHY'S | 617.232.0188 | 14 Harvard St, Brookline
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | 617.864.EAST | 480 Mass Ave, Central Square, Cambridge
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | 617.864.EAST | 480 Mass Ave, Central Square, Cambridge
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | 617.864.EAST | 472 Mass Ave, Central Square, Cambridge
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | 617.868.MSEX | 315 Mass Ave, Cambridge
MIDWAY CAFE | 617.524.9038 | 3496 Washington St, Jamaica Plain
MILKY WAY | 617.524.3740 | @ Bella Luna, 405 Centre St, Jamaica Plain
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | 617.338.5656 | 77 Broad St, Boston
NEWS | 617.426.6397 | 150 Kneeland St, Boston
NIGHT GAMES | 617.628.1000 | @ the Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St, Somerville
O'BRIEN'S | 617.782.6245 | 3 Harvard Ave, Allston
PADDY D'S | 617.367.2114 | 33 Union St, Boston
PALLADIUM | 508.797.9696 | 261 Main St, Worcester
PARADISE LOUNGE | 617.562.8814 | 969 Comm Ave, Boston
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | 617.562.8800 | 967 Comm Ave, Boston
PARRIS | 617.248.9900 | Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston
PEARL'S LOUNGE | 617.776.1557 | 345 Somerville Ave, Somerville
PHOENIX LANDING | 617.576.6260 | 512 Mass Ave, Cambridge
PLACE | 617.523.2081 | 2 Broad St, Boston
PLAYGROUND | 617.441.0666 | 403 Mass Ave, Cambridge
PLUCK & STARS | 617.576.0032 | 912 Mass Ave, Cambridge
PUGLIESE'S BAR AND GRILL | 617.491.9616 | 635 Cambridge St, Cambridge
PURPLE SHAMROCK | 617.227.2060 | 1 Union St, Boston
REDBONES | 617.628.2200 | 55 Chester St, Somerville
REDLINE | 617.491.9851 | 59 JFK St, Cambridge
RELAYTHEATER | 617.395.7757 | Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St, Harvard Square, Cambridge
REMINGTON'S | 617.574.9676 | 128 Boylston St, Boston
RENDEZVOUS | 781.893.7171 | 596 Moody St, Waltham
RHUMB LINE | 978.283.9732 | 90 Railroad Ave, Gloucester
RIVER GODS | 617.576.1881 | 125 River St, Cambridge
ROGGIE'S | 617.566.1880 | 356 Chestnut Hill Ave, Brighton
ROXY | 617.338.ROXY | 279 Tremont St, Boston
RUBY ROOM | 617.557.9950 | Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St, Boston
RUMOR | 617.422.0045 | 1120 Warrenton St, Boston
RYLES | 617.876.9330 | 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge
SABUR RESTAURANT | 617.776.7890 | 212 Holland St, Somerville
SAGRA | 617.625.4200 | 4100 Highland Ave, Somerville
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | 617.666.3589 | 335 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | 617.718.9177 | 6018 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SCRUFFY MURPHY'S | 617.282.6606 | 1333 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
SCULLERS | 617.562.4111 | DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd, Boston
SERAFINA | 978.371.9050 | 195 Sudbury Rd, Concord
SIDNEY'S GRILLE | 617.494.0011 | @ the Hotel@MIT, 20 Sidney St, Cambridge
SIT N BULL PUB | 978.897.7232 | 163 Main St, Maynard
SKY BAR | 617.623.5223 | 518 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SOLSTICE CAFE | 617.566.5958 | 1625 Tremont St Boston
SPORT'S DEPOT | 617.783.2300 | 353 Cambridge St, Allston
SUGAR SHACK | 617.351.2510 | 1 Boylston Pl, Boston
TAP | 617.367.0833 | 19 Union St, Boston
TERRACE BAR | 617.236.5800 | @ the Marriott Hotel Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave, Boston
THIRSTY SCHOLAR PUB | 617.497.2294 | 70 Beacon St, Somerville
TIMES | 617.357.TIME | 112 Broad St, Boston
TOAD | 617.497.4950 | 1912 Main Ave, Porter Square, Cambridge
TOAST | 617.623.9211 | 70 Union Square, Somerville
TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | 617.864.1311 | 96 Winthrop St, Cambridge
TT. THE BEAR'S PLACE | 617.492.BEAR | 10 Brookline St, Central Square, Cambridge
21st AMENDMENT | 617.227.7100 | Bowdoin St, Beacon Hill, Boston
UMBRIA ULTRA LOUNGE & NIGHTCLUB | 617.338.1000 | 295 Franklin St, Boston
UPS N DOWNS | 617.436.9589 | 469 Neponset Ave, Dorchester
VAPOR | 617.695.9500 | 1010 Warrenton St, Boston
VENU | 617.338.8061 | 1010 Warrenton St, Boston
VERTIGO | 617.723.7277 | 126 State St, Boston
WALLY'S CAFE | 617.424.1408 | 427 Mass Ave, Boston
WESTERN FRONT | 617.492.7772 | 343 Western Ave, Cambridge
WEST STREET GRILLE | 617.423.0300 | 15 West St, Boston
WHO'S ON FIRST | 617.247.3353 | 19 Yawkey Way, Fenway Park, Boston
WONDER BAR | 617.351.COOL | 186 Harvard Ave, Allston
ZUZU | 617.864.EAST | 472 Mass Ave, Cambridge

THE WESTERN FRONT
343 Western Ave, Cambridge
Reggae, Latin & Jazz
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CIRCLE FEATURING DJ CAV,
EFREEMAN, THE AVOCADO KID
AND DJ PUSSYWILLOW
FRIDAY: MARCH 30
LAST FRIDAYS FEATURING
THE DIS-N-DAT BAND W/ TRINITY
AND LIVALECT
LIVE ROOTS REGGAE MUSIC
SATURDAY: MARCH 31
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LIVE ROOTS REGGAE MUSIC
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The Cantab Lounge
live music nightly - kitchen open til 11pm
THURSDAY, MARCH 29
UPSTAIRS - THE CHICKENFLACKS 9PM
DOWNSTAIRS - BASTAROS, INC. IMPROV COMEDY 8PM
FRIDAY, MARCH 30
DANNI BLUE AND THE FATBACK BAND 9PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 31
DIANE BLUE AND THE FATBACK BAND 9PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 1
CANDY'S BLUES JAZZ & ROCK JAM 9PM
MONDAY, APRIL 2
GEOFF BERLINER'S OPEN MIKE 8PM
FEATURE @ 9:30: AUSTIN & ELLIOT
TUESDAY, APRIL 3
BLUEGRASS PICKIN' PARTY 8PM
FEATURE @ 10PM:
FLYNN COHEN & THE PICKUP BAND
OPENING ACT @ 8:30PM:
3 CATS AND A DOG
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
UPSTAIRS - CANDY'S BLUES JAZZ & ROCK JAM 9PM
DOWNSTAIRS - BOSTON POETRY SLAM 8PM
738 Mass Ave, Cambridge
617.354.2685

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472-480 MASS. AVE., CAMBRIDGE
(617)864-EAST www.mideastclub.com
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ALL SHOWS 18+ UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. OPEN FOR LUNCH AS ALWAYS
UPSTAIRS
THU 3/29 THE STERNS
MIDNIGHT CREEPS
GENE DANTE & THE FUTURE STARLETS
AFTER HOURS (FROM ITALY)
FRI 3/30
KCRW.COM & THE MIDDLE EAST PRESENT BIRDMONSTER
MASON PROPER • RA RA RIOT
THE SHILLS
SAT 3/31 BIG DIGITS
GEORGE LEWIS JR
(MEMS OF MAD MAN FILMS)
SUN 4/01 FENWICK
HEADBAND • OLIVER NORTH
SERIOUS GENIUSES
MON 4/02 ROBERT GOMEZ
(BELLA UNION RECORDS)
KRISTOFFER RAGNSTAM
WINTERPILLS • THE DIVORCED
TUE 4/03 LOLA RAY (FROM NYC)
THE FUTURISTS (FROM ATLANTA)
RIOT! RIOT!
WED 4/04 AEREOGRAMME (FR SCOTLAND)
TWILIGHT SAD (FR SCOTLAND)
A NORTHERN CHORUS (CANADA)
FRI 4/06
SPONSORED BY INSOUND.COM
YOUTH GROUP
(EPITAPH RECS, FROM AUSTRALIA)
AQUEDUCT (BARSUK RECS)
THE TEXAS GOVERNOR
SAT 4/07
ROCKRGRL PRESENTS
THE FINAL ROUND OF BERKLEE'S BATTLE OF THE ALL-FEMALE BANDS
ZILI MISIK • SMOKE ANIMALS
CLICHE • BURN CHESCA BURN
AURORA
1PM DOORS - ALL AGES
UPCOMING
4/07 SMOKE OR FIRE, TIM BARRY
4/08 ESTRADASPHERE
4/09 ULTRA DOLPHINS, SEA CREATURE
4/10 THE BLACK ANGELS, VIETNAM
4/11 THREE DAY THRESHOLD
4/12 THE DECEMBER SOUND
4/13 CALLA, CLOUD CULT, CHARLENE
DOWNSTAIRS
THU 3/29 JEDI MIND TRICKS
SEAN PRICE • REEF THE LOST CAUZE
FRI 3/30 COLD WAR KIDS
TOKYO POLICE CLUB • DELTA SPIRIT
SOLD OUT!
SAT 3/31 ANTIBALAS
RICH MEDINA'S JUMP N FUNK PARTY
SUN 4/01
THE MIDDLE EAST & LEEDZ EDUTAINMENT PRESENT
IMMORTAL TECHNIQUE
POISON PEN • AKIR • DIABOLIC
THE CIRCLE • DJ GI JOE
THU 4/05
EMERGENZA FESTIVAL : BEANTOWN PROJECT
ELENA JAMES BAND
PROBCAUSE AND THE DH
ULTRA PLUSH • FOURPOINT
THE EVENING GROOVE • VENEER
GRILLING WILSON • ACCURATE ENEMY
7PM DOORS
FRI 4/06
EMERGENZA FESTIVAL : RISE • THE MORES • OILHEAD
REVIVAL • COPENGER
THE SINISTER TURNS
THE NEW SOMEDAY JAPAN
HEAD TRAIN • FULL TILT
THE SHADOWS SMILE
7PM DOORS
SAT 4/07
EMERGENZA FESTIVAL : WOOKIE MONSTER
A DOSE OF REALITY
STU MAC AND CLIVE • MAMADOU
18 WHEELS OF JUSTICE
BEN & BARTY • MISKATONIC
THE MAPLE STREET PROJECT
THE JOHN PAUL • JEFF FETTIG
7PM DOORS
SAT 4/07
THE MIDDLE EAST PRESENTS AT THE SOMERVILLE THEATRE : LOW
LONEY, DEAR
(FROM SEWED, SUB POP)
7:30PM DOORS - ALL AGES
JUST ADDED
4/21 - BOINK DOES BURLESQUE
5/07 - AMBER PACIFIC, MELEE
5/14 - THE ALBUM LEAF
5/16 - COCOROSIE
5/21 - UNSANE, 400 BLOWS
6/03 - SLEEPYTIME GORILLA MUSEUM
6/08 - THE FLESHTONES
UPCOMING
4/08 EMERGENZA FESTIVAL
4/10 JUNIOR BOYS, SAN SERAC
4/11 BOB SCHNEIDER, SHARON LITTLE
4/11 RASPUTINA AT REGENT THEATRE
4/12 MONO, WORLD'S END GIRLFRIEND
4/13 THE GENTLEMEN, HEAVY STUD
4/14 RJD2, BUSDRIVER
4/15 CRAZYLYRICAL SKILLS - MC & DJ BATTLE
ZUZU
THU A.K.A.C.O.D.
FRI LATIN WITH GIAN CARLO BUSCAGLIA
SAT SOUL-LE-LU-JAH
SUN MISS JULIEJULIE, UVKAREN, ONLY ARMEN
MON ART OPENING FOR ROGER MILLER
TUE JUKEBOX : METAL ANGELS
WED ROCK CANDY
CORNER
THU CONTINENTAL DRIFT
FRI ATLAS SOUL
SAT OTIS GROVE
SUN BELLY DANCE SHOW
MON OPEN MIC NIGHT
TUE DJ SNOWDEN
WED BELLY DANCING WITH GARO PAPAZIAN
WWW.MIDEASTCLUB.COM

VERTIGO | Boston | "Dream Lounge" international, Latin, house with DJ Marcocci | vocal & high energy house with DJ Soulheris

WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | 9:30 pm | Jason Palmer & Warren Wolf Jazz Collective

WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | Top 40, funk, dance with DJs Gabe + Lazee Boy

WONDER BAR | Allston | Upstairs | DJ Kon | Lounge | DJ Lazee Boy

ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Latin Night" with Gian Carlo Buscaglia

SATURDAY 31

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | "An Abbey Neon Nite" with Lyres + Lady Kensington & the Beat Lords + Last Ones + Black Moses | Pub Stage | Accident That Led Me to the World

ACTON JAZZ CAFE | Acton | 7 pm | Ed Spago Band | 9:30 pm | Racky Thomas Band

ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | Jamaica Plain | 10 pm | DJ Christine

AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | Brooks Williams & Paul Asbell + Al Cath

ANTHEM | Boston | 10 pm | "Latin Fever"

AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Top 40, Hip-Hop, Electronic" with DJs David James + John Dow

ASGARD | Cambridge | 10 pm | Suns + Matt Chase

AVALON | Boston | 10 pm | DJ Adilson

AXIS | Boston | 6:30 pm | Blood Brothers + Celebration + Chinese Stars | 10 pm | "Seductive Saturday" with DJ Big

BAD ABBOTS | Quincy | Easy Access

BILL'S BAR | Boston | Pedlander-Z + Robby Roadsteamer + Bad Ash + Gonna Get Got

BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | Commercial dance, R&B

BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | Boston | 7:30 pm | Herman Johnson Quartet

BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | Interactive video, Top 40, dance & hip-hop party with VJ Johnnie Walker

BULFINCH YACHT CLUB | Boston | Ways to Fall + Brakemen + Adam Sloane + James Christensen

BULL RUN | Shirley | 1 pm | "Tribute to Patsy Cline" with Sandy Martins | 8 pm | J. Geils-Gerry Beaudoin & the Kings of Strings

BUZZ BOSTON/EUROPA | Boston | "Copa Saturdays" with DJs Michael Mercardo + DJ Hectick

CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | Diane Blue & the Fatback Band

CHANTEY @ MARINA BAY | Quincy | 8 pm | DJ Silent Partner

CHICKEN BONE | Framingham | Hubcats

CLUB 58 | Quincy | "Mash Up Madness" with DJs Stenny + Silent Partner + Trippa + Tommy P + Brian Roche

CLUB HOLLYWOOD | Boston | 8:30 pm | "Glitter Switch Drag Karaoke"

CLUB LIDO | Revere | "Forro do Lido" with Banda D'Mala e Kuia + Paulo Robson & Banda + Nando Cordeiro & Santiago + Galego & Banda Swingueira

CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | Anais Mitchell + John Francis

COLONIAL INN | Concord | Workingman's Band

COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Love Night vs. the Pill" with DJs Ken + Brian

DANTE'S @ FIREFLY | Marlborough | Lydia Warren

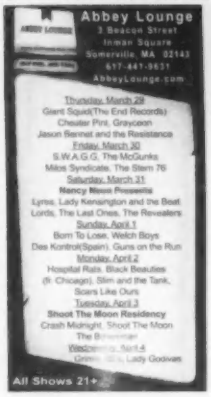
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Mixes & Remixes" with DJs Daniel Spurling + Chris Deorio

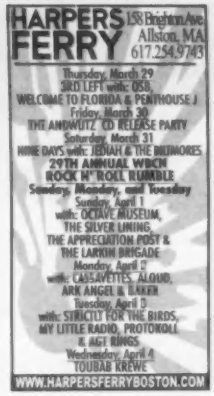
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | Chapter in Verse

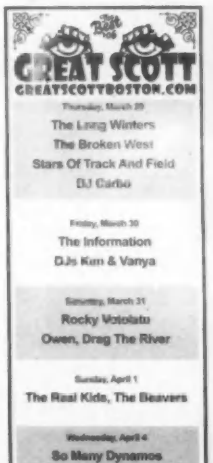
ENCORE | Boston | "Open Mic" with Carol O'Shaugnessy

ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | Unlocked Groove + Alan Manzi + Mike Uzzi + Eddie O

Continued on p 20







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Got Diva-tude? NOWAC Benefit
Def Poetry Jam's Staceyann Chin with
Sunni Patterson, Asali DeVan and More!
Thursday 03.29.07, 21+, 7PM - Donation
Boston Derby Dames Fundraiser!
Warm Bodies, Big Moves, Your Parents
Friday 03.30.07 21+ 9:30 PM $10.00
Mango's Latin Night
Salsa, Merengue, International Pop
Salsa Lessons at 9:00, Dance All Night!
Every Sat! $10 Ladies Free Before 10:30
Bluegrass Bingo Bash
with Speak Out Boston! Live music by
the Tom Fookers - $20 for 5 Bingo Cards!
Sun. 04.01.07 7:30 PM 21+ No Cover
Starlite Open Mic with Miss Tess
Featured Guest: Caitlin Easychord
Free Bowling after 9:00 PM, Free Pool!
Every Monday Night 9:00 $FREE!
Live Band Karaoke!
Ricky Mclean & The Richie & Dime Band
Get your 15 minutes of glory right here
in JP, Boston's Best -7 years running!
Tuesday 04.03.07 - 10:00 - $FREE!
Soulkore: Stardust Open Mic
NO COVER SUN - THURS NIGHT
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MARCH 29-31 7:30 & 10PM
KEVIN HARRIS PROJECT
CD RELEASE PARTY
APRIL 3 7:30 PM
MIKE CLARK OF THE HEADHUNTERS
WITH FRED WESLEY & ROBERT WALTER
APRIL 5 7:30 & 10PM
KENNY GARRETT QUARTET
APRIL 6-7 7:30 & 10PM
4/10 VIENNA TENG • 4/12-14 AHMAD JAMAL
For Tix & Info: 617.395.7757 or www.regattabarjazz.com

Check out the best local MP3s in Boston.

THE PHOENIX.com

Listings

Continued from p 19

FELT | Boston | Main Level | "Boston's A-List" with DJ B-Spin | Nightclub | "Social Club" with DJ Mike Bose
FIREFLY'S BBQ | Framingham | Billy Claire
GOOD LIFE | Boston | DJ Knife + DJ Tommee + Masters
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Rocky Votolato + Owen + Drag the River
GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | Chad Birch
G-SPOT | Boston | "Deep, Sexy House" with DJs Mike Traylor + Paul Incus
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | 12 pm | "WBCN High School Battle of the Bands" | 9:30 pm | Nine Days + Jedíah + Biltmores
HARP | Boston | Go Go Gadjet
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Incadence
JOE TECCE'S RISTORANTE | Boston | 7 pm | Rose Jamieson & Rick Schilling
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 9:45 pm | Sarah Borges Band + Jimmy Ryan & Hayride
JUKEBOX | Boston | Top 40 and retro dance night
KELLS | Allston | "Celebration Saturday" with DJs Darren Drag + Kieran
KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | "Hillbilly Heaven" with Bumtown + Country Doctore + Clydesdale Cowboys + Bees Knees + Doug MacDonald Band
LANDING @ 7 CENTRAL | Manchester | Elaine O'Rourke
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Marianne Solivan
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | Logan & the Runners + Sand Machine + Damian Shiner
MARBLEHEAD LANDING | Marblehead | Code 51
MATRIX | Boston | DJ Vai Beatz
MATT MURPHY'S | Brookline | Rex Complex
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | Otis Grove
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | Arrtitolas + Rich Medina's Jump n Funk Party
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | DJ Ken
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Nerd Night" with Invisible Rays + Matters & Dunaway
NIGHT GAMES | Somerville | "Sexy Saturday" with Ray Barbuta + Hustle Simmons
PADDY O'S | Boston | DJ Select
PALLADIUM | Worcester | Type O Negative + Brand New Sin
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Barnacles + Apple Berry + Muy Caricado
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | Carbon Leaf
PARRIS | Boston | Star 69
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Living Sea + Paul Michel + Chris Pearson
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Boom Boom Room" new wave, disco with DJ Vinny
PLACE | Boston | VJ Laptop
REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | DJ Cherry
REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 + 10 pm | Irma Thomas
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Groove" with Just Tad DJ Nile
ROXY | Boston | 10 pm | "Latin Saturdays"
RYLES | Cambridge | Wildest Dreams
SABUR RESTAURANT | Somerville | 10:30 pm | Balkanski Motivi
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 5 pm | Tom Hagerty Band | 9 pm | Tubbs
SCRUFFY MURPHY'S | Dorchester | "Party Time" with DJ Jen
SCULLERS | Boston | 8 + 10:30 pm | Tuck & Patti
SIT N BULL PUB | Maynard | Carry the One
SKY BAR | Somerville | Jeffrey Simmons + In Out + Psycho + Padded Hell
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | Hip-hop and Top 40 with DJ B-Spin
TERRACE BAR | Boston | 5 pm | Ryan Fitzsimmons | 9:30 pm | Modern Manners
THIRSTY SCHOLAR PUB | Somerville | DJ Sean
TOAST | Somerville | "Heroes" Retro, electro, new wave, punk with DJ Chris Ewen
TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | Cambridge | Prodigals
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Wheat + Plain Janes + Verona Downie + Yarrows
21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly
UMBRIA ULTRA LOUNGE & NIGHTCLUB | Boston | Third Floor | Deep & funky house | Fourth + Fifth Floors | Hip-hop, Top 40
VAPOR | Boston | "Crosswalk" with DJs David Skye + M.J.
VENU | Boston | European disco house with DJs Javier + Nico ("Mythos" ethnic house and Greek sounds with DJ Yorgo
VERTIGO | Boston | "Vertigo Saturday" hip-hop, R&B, house, and reggae with DJ Ron Suwl
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | 6 pm | Stringer Experience | 9:30 pm | Jason Palmer & Warren Wolf Jazz Collective
WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | Top 40, funk, dance with DJs Gabe + Lazee Boy
WHO'S ON FIRST | Boston | 10 pm | DJs Garfield + Disciple + Nate
WONDER BAR | Allston | Upstairs | DJ 7L | Lounge | DJ Braun Johnson
ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Soul-le-lu-jah" with Claude Money + Raleigh Fingers + Dinos Mekios

SUNDAY 1

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | Blue Bloods + Welch Boys + Des Kontrol + Guns on the Run | Pub Stage | Death & Taxes
ACTON JAZZ CAFE | Acton | 4 pm | Steve Berke | 7:30 pm | New York-Tokyo Connection
ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | Jamaica Plain | 10 pm | Crank-Tones
ARIA | Boston | "Living Room" lounge, vocal house
BAD ABBOTS | Quincy | Tara Hill Band
BILL'S BAR | Boston | "Reggae Night"
BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | "Laid Back Sunday"
BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | Boston | 10 am | "Sunday Brunch" with Sonny Watson Quartet
BULFINCH YACHT CLUB | Boston | Harvesting Hermit + Nowhere USA + Arithmetics + Downhill Fast + Bunker Hill Pipe Band
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | "Candy's Blues, Jazz & Rock Jam"
CLARK'S IN FANEUIL HALL | Boston | 9 Pound Bag
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 7:30 pm | Rosalie Sorrels
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 5 pm | "Family Fireside Sing-Along" with John Fitzsimmons | 7 pm | "The Folk Tradition"
COTTONWOOD CAFE | Boston | D Street Band
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Industry Night" with DJ Paul Dailey
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | 7 pm | Nate Watkins
ENCORE | Boston | "Open Mic" with Matt Pryor + Emily Shackelton
GRAFTON STREET PUB & GRILL | Cambridge | 9 pm | Beantown Project
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Real Kids + Beavers
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | "Live Band Karaoke" with Brick Park
GROG | Newburyport | Vykki Vox + Ken Clark + Erik Ringstad + Amadee Castanell
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | 12 pm | "WBCN High School Battle of the Bands" | 9:30 pm | "29th Annual WBCN Rock N' Roll Rumble" with Octave Museum + Silver Lining + Appreciation Post + Larkin Brigade
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Sweep the Leg
HONG KONG @ FANEUIL HALL | Boston | "Sinful Sunday"
JEANIE JOHNSTON PUB | Jamaica Plain | 7 pm | "Open Blues Jam" with Ben Deluxe
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 9 am | "Jazz Brunch" with Tom Pendergrast | 4:30 pm | "Open Blues Jam" | 9 pm | "Salsa Dancing"
KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | "April Fools Day Party" with Lodge
MATT MURPHY'S | Brookline | 10 pm | Alex Ebb
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | "Belly Dancing" with DJ Carabed + Sahar
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | Immortal Technique + Poison Pen + Akir + Diabolic + Circle + DJ GI Joe
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | 6 pm | "The Blender Open Mic" with Jessie Rae + Jesse
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | Boston | 4 pm | "Traditional Irish Session" | 9 pm | Mike Barrett
PADDY O'S | Boston | 4 pm | "Irish Session" | 9 pm | "Reggae Sunday" with Danny Tucker & Vibe Tribe
PALLADIUM | Worcester | 6:30 pm | Horse the Band + Number 12 Looks Like You
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | 7:30 pm | Jamie Kennedy
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Full Grown Spiders + Apothecary Hymns + King Egg + Cursillistas + Jen Strickland
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Bump" underground house with DJs Sergio Santos + Randy Desbiens + Rutland Ess + Ryan Obermiller
PLOUGH & STARS | Cambridge | noon | "Country Gospel Brunch" with Sacred Shakers | 4 pm | Frank Drake | 9 pm | Frank Morey
PUGLIESE'S BAR AND GRILL | Cambridge | "Open Mic" with Jay Hammond
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | James McKenna Duo
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Action Sunday" punk, garage, rock with Dinos + Amy
RYLES | Cambridge | 10 am | "Jazz Brunch" with Patricia Adams
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 5 pm | Paul Ahlstrand Quartet | 9 pm | White Owls
SCULLERS | Boston | 4 + 7 pm | Tuck & Patti
TERRACE BAR | Boston | 7 pm | Ray Santisi Trio
TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | Cambridge | "Sunday Blues Revue" with Bee's Deluxe
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Minmae + Broken River Prophet + Guillermo Sexo
VAPOR | Boston | "T-Dance" old school house with DJ Darsue
VERTIGO | Boston | Caribbean and Weird Beat with DJ Deville
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | 4 pm | "Jazz Jam Session" with Jason Palmer Trio | 9 pm | Wally's Stepchildren
ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Weekend Warriors" with Claude Money + Professor Z + Rasafire

MONDAY 2

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | Hospital Rats + Black Beauties + Scars Lie Ours | Pub Stage | Janet Conery
AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Ceremony" goth, industrial
AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | "Static Cay Night" with Ruban Esthera
BELL IN HAND TAVERN | Boston | "Tommy's Jam Session"
BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | Boston | 7 pm | "Berklee Faculty Jam" with Bill Banfield
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | "Martini Mondays"
BRENDAN BEHAN PUB | Jamaica Plain | "Sonic Cinger" down tempo lounge, dub with DJs Martini + Ah Dub
BULL RUN | Shirley | 1 pm | DeBenedictis Sisters
BURREN | Somerville | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music"
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | 8 pm | "Open Mic" | 9:30 pm | Austin & Elliott
COLONIAL INN | Concord | "Roots Music Jam Session" with Tom Yates & Friends
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | 7 pm | Keith Lewis
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | Headshaft
ENCORE | Boston | "Open Mic" with Steve Hock
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | "Beat Research" with Team Canada DJs
FELT | Boston | "Cabana Monday" with DJs Hernan + Martinez
GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | "Irish Sesiun"
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | "29th Annual WBCN Rock N' Roll Rumble" with Cassavettes + Aloud + Almada + Baker
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Joe Carson
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 pm | Serena Ryder + James Hunter
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | "Open Mic Challenge" with Tom Bianchi
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Open Mic Night" with Roger Nicholson
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Robert Gomez + Kristoffer Ragnstam + Winterpills + Divorced
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 7 pm | "Starlite Open Stage"
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | Move the Rabbit + Porphyria + Plateau + Revocation
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Gran Bel Fisher + Jake Brennan + Josh Krajcik Band
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Dead Science + Parenthetical Girls + Crystal Understanding
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Makka Monday" hip-hop, reggae with Voyager on + DJ Uppercut
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | Scott Damgaard
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Weekly Wax" with Brian + Melissa
TOAD | Cambridge | 8 pm | Shwang | 10:30 pm | Tim Curran Band
TOAST | Somerville | "Industry Night"
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Hella + Pussyall + Who's Your Favorite Son God?
VAPOR | Boston | "Piano Open Mic" with Michelle Curry
VERTIGO | Boston | "The Movement" deep house, house, progressive with DJ Eric Santangelo
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Jose Ramon & the Special Blend
WONDER BAR | Allston | "Monday Mixer" with

TUESDAY 3

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | Crash Midnight + Shoot the Moon + Berserkman
AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | "Berklee Faculty Jazz Jam" with Daryl Lowery
ARIA | Boston | "One Nation Tuesdays" hip-hop, R&B, reggae with DJ Chubby Chub
AVALON | Boston | 7:30 pm | Taylor Hicks
BAD ABBOTS | Quincy | "Open Mic" with Katie Mae + Jerry
BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 7 pm | "Open Mic" with Hugh McGowan
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | 8 pm | "Bluegrass Pickin' Party" with Flynn Cohen & the Pickup Band + 3 Cats & a Dog | Downstairs | 8 pm | "Bluegrass Pickin' Party"
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Open Mic Night"
COLONIAL INN | Concord | Hatrack Gallagher & the Ric Mauré Trio
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | Fats Hammond
ENCORE | Boston | "Open Mic" with Bobby Femino
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Dave Leeb
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | "29th Annual WBCN Rock N' Roll Rumble" with Strictly for the Birds + My Little Radio + Protokoll + Age Rings
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Scott Damgaard + Bilgehan Tuncer
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Chris & Lorin Rowan
KELLS | Allston | "Totally 80s Tuesday"
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Rusty Scott
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Lola Ray + Futurists + Riot! Riot!
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | "All Star Live Band Karaoke" with Nickel & Dime Band
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Serena Ryder + James Hunter
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Locksley + Scissors for Lefty + Animal Closet
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | DJ Dana Z
REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 pm | Kevin Harris Project
RHUMB LINE | Gloucester | "Big Tuesday" with Boston Horns
ROGGIE'S | Brighton | "Open Mic" with Christie Leigh
RYLES | Cambridge | "Artist Showcase" with Fernando Ferrer
TAP | Boston | "Open Mic"
TOAST | Somerville | "Singularity: IDM, Glitch, Electronic"
TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | Cambridge | Tom Berman + Blythe Hollow + Aaron Thomas
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Tab + Ascetic Junkies + Nalband
VAPOR | Boston | "Retro Night" with DJs Danae + Michael Sheehan

VENU | Boston | "Mynt" international sounds with DJ Adilson
VERTIGO | Boston | "Defmatch" electro-backbeat with DJs
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Wally's Stepchildren
WONDER BAR | Allston | "Chill Zone" with Raj
ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "JukeBOX: the Ladies DJ Night"

WEDNESDAY 4

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Main Stage | Grims + 85's + Lady Godivas | Pub Stage | Bob Cushing + Wayne Morphew
ACTON JAZZ CAFE | Acton | 6:30 pm | Starchild G & the Rollers from the Seventh Level | 8:30 pm | Jerry Bergonzi + Bruce Gertz + Bob Kaufman + Gabriel Guerrero
AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | 7:30 pm | "Folk open Mic" with California Dreamin' + Dan Cloutier
AVALON | Boston | 7 pm | Stone Sour + Lacuna Coil + Shadows Fall
BULFINCH YACHT CLUB | Boston | Baby Boy H + New Dead Scene
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | "Candy's Blues, Jazz & Rock Jam"
CAPRICE | Boston | 9 pm | Toussaint
CLUB CHOICES | Somerville | Clinton Johnson & the Stealth Band
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 6:30 pm | "Joe Boyd Book Release" with Dana Kletter + Silver Leaf Gospel Singers
COLONIAL INN | Concord | Jimmy Mazzy & the Last Minute Men
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Guitar Hero Night"
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Futurelounge" with DJ Dale Charles
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | 7 pm | Jonno
ENCORE | Boston | "Open Mic" with Michelle Currie
FELT | Boston | "Plush Wednesday"
FIRE + ICE | Boston | 8 pm | "Open Mic Night"
FIREFLY'S BBQ | Framingham | "Acoustic Blues Open Mic" with Bruce Marshall
GOOD LIFE | Boston | "A Weekly Musical Education" with Adam Gibbons + DJ K.C.
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Jaguar Club + Wild Light
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Dave Leeb
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | Toubab Krewe
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Upstairs | 26 Degrees Tauraus + Polyethylene + Manners + Bridget & the Squares | Downstairs | "Live Kareoke" with Buzz
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Dwight Richter + Nicole Nelson
KELLS | Allston | "Get Over the Hump" hip-hop, house, & dance with DJ Doc
KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN | Boston | Christie Leigh & Friends
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Brian Kelley Trio
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | "Belly Dancing" with
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Aereogramme + Twilight Sad + A Northern Chorus
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Musk Dance Party"
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | Lee Wilson
NEWS | Boston | 5:30 pm | DJ Jay Prouty
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Stephanian + We the Living
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Calumet Hecla + Debate + Shark & Bear + Banana-nas
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Tension" with Eastern Breaks
PLACE | Boston | Diana Karthas
PLAYGROUND | Cambridge | "Open Mic"
REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Shift" indie rock, electro-punk, techno-pop with DJ Punketta Doilie
REEL BAR | Allston | "Collective Wednesday" with DJs Cristin + Jay + Patrick + Ian
REMINGTON'S | Boston | 8:30 pm | Al Vega Trio + Johnny Souza
RENDEZVOUS | Waltham | 9 pm | "Open Mic"
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Primitive Sounds" with Jason Beek + PJ Eastman
RYLES | Cambridge | Peru Mestizo + Obbiri Tumbao + BCDS Jazz Bands
SAGRA | Somerville | 7:30 pm | Carmen Marsico & Bjorn Wennas Quartet
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 10 pm | Timo Shanko
SCULLERS | Boston | Sachal Vasandani
SERAFINA | Concord | 6:30 pm | Paul Broadnax + Nathalie Marsh
SIDNEY'S GRILLE | Cambridge | 5 pm | Groove Authority
SIT N BULL PUB | Maynard | "Open Mic" with Seth Connelly + Bryan Croad
SPORT'S DEPOT | Allston | "Better Off Allston 80s Dance Party"
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | Hip-hop and Top 40 with DJ Ben Justice
TAP | Boston | Bruce Jacques
TERRACE BAR | Boston | 7 pm | Emily Shackleton
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | "W.O.W. the Women of Wednesday" with Brooke Parrott + Ashleigh Flynn | 9:30 pm | Nervous But Excited
TOAST | Somerville | "Crypt" goth-industrial with DJ Chris Ewen
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Theresa Danielle + Chloe & the Pappas + Flinn Pomeroy
VAPOR | Boston | "Latino Night" with DJ Adilson
VERTIGO | Boston | "Anitya" psytrance with DJs Dino + Mathwin + Dave Henshaw with special guests
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Wally's Stepchildren
WONDER BAR | Allston | Jen Williams + AJ Kahn + Tommy C
ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Rock Candy" with DJs Greggy Mont + Dan E. Pants

THURSDAY 5

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Pub Stage | Michael Kwong
ACTON JAZZ CAFE | Acton | 6:30 pm | Laird Nelson | 8:30 pm | "Blues Jam" with B.J. Magoon & Friends
ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | Jamaica Plain | 10 pm | Rick Berlin
AN TAIN | Boston | 5 pm | DJ Keith
AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Hip-Hop & Top 40" with DJ Howie
APIA | Boston | NYC hip-hop with guest DJs
ASGARD | Cambridge | 10 pm | Lynette Williams
BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO | Boston | 7 pm | Groove Authority
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | 5 pm | "After Work Thursday"
BULFINCH YACHT CLUB | Boston | Daisy's Little Secret + Year of the Cow + Johnny Rumble + Trucker
BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 10 pm | Swinging Johnsons
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | "Chicken Slacks Soul, R&B & Funk Dance Party"
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | Lindsay Mac + Shawn Snyder
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 7 pm | Just Another Guru
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Love Night" 80s, all vinyl with DJ Brian
CONNERY'S INN | Framingham | "Open Mic"
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Chart & Dance" with DJ Doc
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | 7 pm | "Live Karaoke" with Brick Park
DRUID | Cambridge | 10 pm | Nightime Gallagher
EMBASSY | Boston | "The Glamorous Life" hip-hop & electro party with DJs Susan Esthera + Aphrodite
ENCORE | Boston | Rich Dimare
FLANN O'BRIEN'S | Boston | Acousticouel
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Battles + Major Stars + Amoroso
GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | DJ JFK
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Spitting Vinnies
HANNAH'S | Somerville | Reggae and house with guest DJs
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | "29th Annual WBCN Rock N' Roll Rumble" with Six Day Slide + Indefinite Article + UV Protection + Self-Righteous Brothers
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Upstairs | Harris + Mako + Hero Cycle + Hookers & Blow | Downstairs | Flyswitch
JOSE McINTYRE'S | Boston | Upstairs | DJ John Tringall | Downstairs | Me & Julio
KELLS | Allston | "Fun House" with DJs Edgar + Mike Gioscia
KINGS | Boston | 10 pm | "Karaoke Idol"
KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | 8 pm | Rollo Tomasi Quartet | 9 pm | "Jazz Jam Session"
LA LUNA CAFE | Cambridge | Caminhos Cruzados with Evelyn Rosenthal
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Pablo Bencid Trio
LILY PAD | Cambridge | 8 pm | Augusto Monk | 10 pm | Branch/Riordan/Sexton + Kevin Davis
LUPO'S @ THE STRAND | Providence, RI | 7 pm | Placebo + Evaline
MANTRA | Boston | 10:30 pm | "Mantra Thursday" eclectic international, vocal house, hip-hop
MARCO POLO | Ipswich | Soul Band
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | "Continental Drift: Live African Music" with Bouba Diabate
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | "Emergenza Festival" with Elena James Band + Probcause & the DH + Ultra Plush + Fourpoint + Evening Groove + Veneer + Grilling Wilson + Accurate Enemy
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | "Make it New" electronic dance music with David Day
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Women's Dance Night + Queeraoke"
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | "Aquanet 80s Dance Party" with DJs Casey + Tommee + Knife + Paul Foley + Mike Costa + Michael Hensley
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | Boston | Al Vega Trio
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | DJs Razzle Thunder + Grendel
PADDY O'S | Boston | "College Night" with DJ Select
PALLADIUM | Worcester | Pretty Ricky + Hustle Simmons
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Grown Up Noise + Untrainables
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | Raq + Benways
PARRIS | Boston | Second Chance
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Clawjob + Piles + Sweetthieves + Mane
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Elements" drum n bass with DJs Crook + Lenore + MDoc
PUGLIESE'S BAR AND GRILL | Cambridge | "Open Mic" with Mike Mayne
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | DJ Flanagan + Jim Plunkett
REDBONES | Somerville | "Thirsty Thursday Hoedown" with Beau Rowland Band
REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Reunion"
REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 + 10 pm | Mike Clark + Fred Wesley + Robert Walter
ROGGIE'S | Brighton | Lounge | Tribal house, breakbeat funk with DJ Jonathan Theory
RUBY ROOM | Boston | "Rouge Thursday" with DJ Prolific
RYLES | Cambridge | Leo Genovese
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | Christopher Kimble + Mike MacDonald + Brian Pero & the Tired Horses
SCULLERS | Boston | 8 + 10 pm | Hiromi
SOLSTICE CAFE | Boston | 10 pm | "Jazz Jam Session" with Panella & Larson Trio
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | "College Night" with DJ B-Spin
TAP | Boston | DJ Thom
TERRACE BAR | Boston | 7 pm | Eric McFadden
TIMES | Boston | 6 pm | Frank Morey & His Band | 9:30 | "Open Mic" with Jon Titone
TOAST | Somerville | "Twisted Thursday College Night" hip-hop, Top 40 with DJ 9-1
TOMMY DOYLE'S HARVARD | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Timewarp Thursday" with Fast Times | midnight | DJ Special K
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | "Jon Erik Johnson Benefit" with Bourbonaires + Raging Teens + Death & Taxes + Honey Badger
21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly
VAPOR | Boston | "MOCCA" hip-hop, R&B with DJs KC + Ron Steel
VENU | Boston | "Venu Thursday" | Room 1 | "Hip-hop, reggae, reggaeton" | Room 2 | "Salsa, merengue"
VERTIGO | Boston | DJs Pup Dawg + Swissivory
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Francisco Mela Quintet
WESTERN FRONT | Cambridge | "Circle"
WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | "Late Night Lounge"
WONDER BAR | Allston | Upstairs | "Trend" with DJ Braun Johnson | Lounge | "Fly Thursdays" with Drop tha Beat Productions

COMEDY

THURSDAY 29

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

CANTAB LOUNGE | Downstairs | "Bastards Inc Comedy"
COMEDY CONNECTION | "The R-Rated Hypnotist" Frank Santos
COMEDY STUDIO | Chris Coxen + Tom Dustin + Pincus + Gary Petersen + Shaun Bedgood + Tom Caswell + Mandy Donovan + Maggie MacDonald
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT @ REMINGTON'S | "Boston Comics with Boston Attitude" with Greg Howell
IMPROV ASYLUM | "New Kids on the Blog"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 8 pm | "Comedy Thursday" | 10 pm | "The Great & Secret Comedy Show"

FRIDAY 30

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ARSENAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 8 pm | Improv Jones
CABARET THEATRE @ MOHEGAN SUN | 11 pm | Drew Frasier
COMEDY CONNECTION @ KOWLOON | 8 pm | "The R-Rated Hypnotist" Frank Santos | 10:15 pm | Frank Santorelli + Scott Higgins
COMEDY CONNECTION | 8 + 10:15 pm | Louis CK
COMEDY STUDIO | DJ Hazard + Jim Flaherty + Ilan Elson-Schwab + Alan Sousa + JJ Leslie + Bob Hagearty + Pat Boccuzzi + Maggie MacDonald

Continued on p 23

the phoenix LANDING
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Ladies 80's & top 40 Dance w/ DJ Vinny
SATURDAY BOOM BOOM ROOM.
New Wave, One Hit Wonders & Disco with DJ Vinny
SUNDAY BUMP
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MONDAY Makka Mondays:
Reggae with Hosts Voyager 01 and Uppercut (21+ 10pm - 1am)
TUESDAY ROCK IT, DON'T STOP IT presented by Goddess Touch w/ Mr. Precision
WEDNESDAY TENSION
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BALKAN SOUL / REGGAE
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VIBEWISE
SATURDAY, MAR. 31
ROOTS ROCK
SARAH BORGES & BROKEN SINGLES
JIMMY RYAN & HAYRIDE
SUNDAY, APR. 1
OPEN BLUES JAM 4:30 - 8:30PM
SALSA NIGHT W/ LIVE BAND
LESSONS 9:00 - 10:PM
DANCE PARTY 10:00- 12:00PM
EVERY MONDAY
FREE PIZZA 6-8:30PM
TEAM TRIVIA 8:30PM
TUESDAY, APR. 3
FOLK / BLUEGRASS
LORIN & CHRIS ROWAN
WEDNESDAY, APR. 4
SOUL / R&B
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FEATURING MEMBERS OF SUPERHONEY
FRIDAY, APR. 6
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THE SOUL BAND
SATURDAY, 7
POP / ROCK
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THE RUDDS
JACK O'HARA
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APR. 10- ALASTAIR MOOCK/TIM GEARAN/MARK ERELLI
APR. 11- ZAGNUTT / CLOSE TO HOME
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SAT 3/31
WHEAT • THE PLAIN JANES
VERONA DOWNS • THE YAWNOS
SUN 4/1
BROKEN RIVER PROPHET
GUILLERMO SEXO
MON 4/2
HELLA • PONYTAIL
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COMING: 4/7 XIU XIU, SHEARWATER
4/10 JAMES MORRISON (SOLD OUT)
4/14 FLUTTR EFFECT 4/15 GORE GORE GIRLS
4/20 RICHARD SWIFT & DAVID VANDERVELDE
4/24 & 25 DAMONE
4/26 THE CLIKS 4/27 SUCKA BROWN CD REL
4/30 THE VIEW 5/4 SOLILOQUIST OF SOUND
5/5 THE RUDDS 5/15 CINEMATICS
5/18 RICHARD LLOYD 5/19 MANDO DIAO
5/26 TWO TIMIN TRIBE 6/1 HRT.
www.ttthebears.com for a full schedule

THE PLOUGH & STARS
www.ploughandstars.com
Thursday, March 29
Larry Flint - 10pm
Friday, March 30
The Coachmen - 10pm
Saturday, March 31
Family Jewels - 4pm
Andrea Gillis - 10pm
Sunday, April 1
Frank Morey - 9pm
Sacred Shakers - noon
Monday, April 2
DJ NIGHT
with DJ Jason Beek of WMBR's American Primitive
10pm
Wednesday, April 3
Bad Art Ensemble - 10pm
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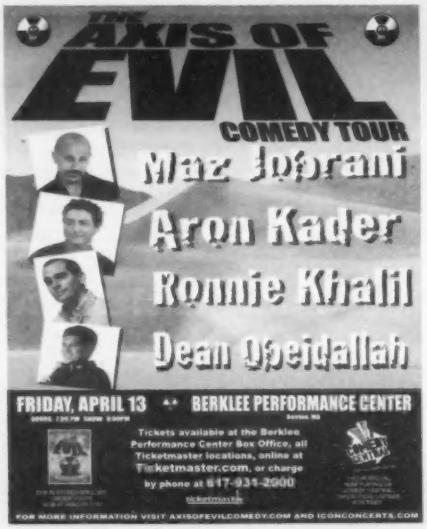
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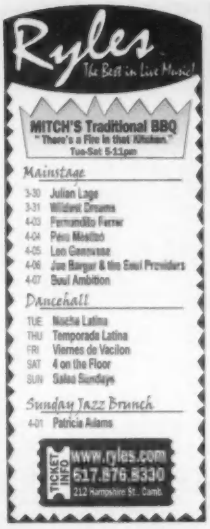

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Listings

Continued from p 21

DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT @ REMINGTON'S | "Boston Comics with Boston Attitude" with Dick Doherty
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 + 10 pm | "New Kids on the Blog"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 8 pm | "Blue Screen" | 10 pm | "Theatre Sports" | 11:30 pm | "Night Cap"
JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY | 10 pm | "Jimmy Tingle's Comedy Showcase"

SATURDAY 31

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | 8 + 10:15 pm | Louis CK
COMEDY STUDIO | Jim Flaherty + JJ Leslie + Mandy Bardsley + Bob Hagearty + Pat Boccuzzi + Maggie MacDonald
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT @ REMINGTON'S | Dick Doherty + Jessie Gerstin
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 + 10 pm | "New Kids on the Blog" | midnight | "The Midnight Show"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 6 pm | "Family Show" | 8 + 10 pm | "Mainstage" | 11:30 pm | "Night Cap"
JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY | 10 pm | "Jimmy Tingle's Comedy Showcase"

SUNDAY 1

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | 7 pm | Tony V.
COMEDY STUDIO | "Erin Judge Presents" Gary Solmers + Taylor Connelly + Jono Zalay + David Powell + Marlas Ciampa + Peter Bowers + Renata Tutko + David Grabiner
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT @ REMINGTON'S | "Boston's Wildest Open Mic" with Alvin David
EMERALD ISLE | 8 pm | "Big Funny Sunday" with Corey Manning + Chris Tabb
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 7 pm | "Culpepper Comedy Jam"

MONDAY 2

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | 8 pm | "Amateur Showcase" with Kevin Knox
GREEN DRAGON | "Battle of the Comedians"

TUESDAY 3

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

AN TUA NUA | Bragging to Children
COMEDY CONNECTION | Paul Nardizzi
COMEDY STUDIO | "Mystery Lounge"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 10 pm | "Zebro"

WEDNESDAY 4

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | Jim Dunn
COMEDY STUDIO | James Duffy + Ellen Moschetto + Alvin David + Neill Padover + Doug Chagnon + Sean Sullivan + Dave Crabiner + Ernestine Conklin + Ted Pettingell + Shaun Donovan
EMERALD ISLE | 8 pm | "Open Mic" with Rich Gustus
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 8 pm | "The Hump Fringe Show: Crackers in Bed + Up With Family"
UPS N DOWNS | 10 pm | "Comedy Open Mic" with DJ Cage

THURSDAY 5

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

AVALON | 6 pm | "Banned in Boston: A Madcap Musical Comedy Revue"
CANTAB LOUNGE | Downstairs | "Bastards Inc Comedy"
COMEDY CONNECTION | "The R-Rated Hypnotist" Frank Santos
COMEDY STUDIO | "The Rob O'Reilly Show" with Tom Lizzarzicke + Tim Dillon + Daniel Fortuna + Dan Hinshaw + Bethany Van Delft + Dave Crabtree
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT @ REMINGTON'S | "Boston Comics with Boston Attitude" with Greg Howell
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 8 pm | "Comedy Thursday" | 10 pm | "The Great & Secret Comedy Show"

CONCERTS

THURSDAY 29

"BERKLEE'S 21ST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NIGHT" | 8:15 pm | Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, Boston | $15 | 617.747.2261
DECEMBERISTS + MY BRIGHTEST DIAMOND | 8 pm | Wellesley College Alumni Hall, 106 Central St., Wellesley | $25 | 781.283.3795
"JAZZ WORSHIP SERVICE" WITH WILLIE SORDILLO TRIO | 6 pm | Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston | free | 617.425.5159
"RAISE THE ROOF PARTY" WITH DEXTERITY | 6–9 pm | Bernard Toale Gallery, 450 Harrison Ave., Boston | $50 | 617.892.9179
TOUMANI DIABATE'S SYMMETRIC ORCHESTRA | 7:30 pm | Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville | $28 | 617.876.4275
YOUNG JEEZY + LIL WAYNE + BIRDMAN AKA BABY + RICH BOY + JIM JONES | 7:30 pm | Dunkin Donuts Center, 1 Lasalle Square, Providence, RI | $40–$80 | 401.331.0700

FRIDAY 30

CHRISTINA AGUILERA + PUSSYCAT DOLLS + DANITY KANE | 7:30 pm | TD Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston | $55 + $95 | 617.624.1000
"BACA CABARET CELEBRATION" WITH ELSA POWELL & JAY ULHER + B. IRIS TANNER | 7:30 pm | Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge | $18; $15 members | 617.512.9455
"CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE PRESENTS LED ZEPPELIN II" | 8 pm | Wolf Den @ Mohegan Sun, 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd., Uncasville, CT | free | 888.226.7711
"PASSIM'S 49th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION" WITH JOHN PRINE + MARY GAUTHIER + MICHAEL TROY | 7:30 pm | Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge | $35 + $50 [VIP $125] | 617.496.2222
"EL BEMBÉ COLUMBIANO" WITH DJ DISCO MORENO + COLUMBIAN ALL-STARS | 10 pm | Hernandez Cultural Center @ the Center for Latino Arts, 85 West Newton St., Boston | $15 | 617.927.1717
JOHN BABOIAN QUARTET | 8 pm | Art Gallery @ Armenian Library & Museum of America, 65 Main St., Watertown | $10 | 617.926.3562
"LATIN JAZZ & POETRY NIGHT" WITH CORNELL COLEY & THE SUGARFOOT JAZZ TRIO | 7 pm | Jamaicaway Books & Gifts, 676 Centre St., Jamaica Plain | $7.50 | 617.983.3204
LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTREAL | Fri 7:30 pm; Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm | Barbara Lee Family Foundation Theatre, Institute of Contemporary Art, 100 Northern Ave, Boston | $35 | 617.876.4275
MEN WOMEN & CHILDREN + WE ARE THE FURY | 6 pm | ICC, 557 Cambridge St., Allston | $10 | massliveevents.com
"SALSA FEST MINI CONGRESS" WITH DJ ROB SUAVE + DJ MASTER + PEDRITO SANTIAGO + DJ HERNAN CHOQUE | Fri + Sat | 8 pm | Hyatt Regency Hotel, 575 Memorial Dr., Cambridge | $20 [one night]; $25 [both nights] | 617.524.0457
"THE RAT PACK IS BACK!" | See listing for Thurs

SATURDAY 31

"AFRICAN MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL" WITH BERKLEE WEST AFRICAN DRUM & DANCE ENSEMBLE + SUNY BINGHAMPTON NUKPORFE DANCE-DRUMMING ENSEMBLE + KINIWE | 1 pm | Jackson Dance Lab @ Aidekman Arts Center, 40 Talbot Ave, Tufts University | free | 8 pm | Distler Performance Hall @ Granoff Music Center, 20 Talbot Ave, Tufts University | $5 | 617.627.3253
AMBINA | 7:30 pm | Remis Auditorium @ Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | $35; $12 members, students, seniors | 617.369.3300
AUGUST SPIES + 26 BEERS + MOUTH SEWN SHUT + HANG TUFF + DESPOTIC ROBOT | 4 pm | Cambridge Elks Lodge, 55 Bishop Richard Allen Dr, Cambridge | $7 | www.myspace.com/cambridgeelks
"BRAZILIAN NIGHT" WITH DJ DOUG | 10 pm | Someville Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville | 617.628.1000
LINDSEY BUCKINGHAM | 8 pm | Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom, 169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton, NH | $20–$40 | 603.929.4201
PIXIES | 8 pm | Wolf Den @ Mohegan Sun, 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd., Uncasville, CT | free | 888.226.7711
MATT & SHANNON HEATON | 8 pm | A New Song Coffeehouse @ First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 The Great Road, Bedford | $15 | 781.275.1135
DON MCLEAN + SPRINGFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA | 8 pm | Springfield Symphony Hall, 34 Court St., Springfield | $10–$54 | 413.788.7646
DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN | 8 pm | Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, Boston | $23–$38 | 617.747.2261
2 FOOT YARD | 8 pm | Zeiterion Theatre, 684 Purchase St, New Bedford | $29 | 508.997.5664
LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTREAL | See listing for Fri
"SALSA FEST MINI CONGRESS" WITH DJ ROB SUAVE + DJ MASTER + PEDRITO SANTIAGO + DJ HERNAN CHOQUE | See listing for Fri
"THE RAT PACK IS BACK!" | See listing for Thurs

SUNDAY 1

ALL NEWTON MUSIC SCHOOL JAZZ TRIO | 2 pm | Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton Centre | free | 617.796.1360
ANGEL CITY OUTCASTS + BORN TO LOSE + FLATFOOT 56 + MARK LIND & THE UNLOVED + TRASH BOYS + FAR FROM FINISHED | 1 pm | Cambridge Elks Lodge, 55 Bishop Richard Allen Dr, Cambridge | www.myspace.com/cambridgeelks
"BACA CABARET CELEBRATION 2007 PERFORMER SHOWCASE" | 7 pm | Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge | $12; $10 members | 617.512.9455
HOSSEIN ALIZADEH & THE HAMAVAYAN ENSEMBLE | 7:30 pm | Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville | $25 + $35 | 617.876.4275
JAMES HUNTER | 7 pm | Wolf Den @ Mohegan Sun, 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd, Uncasville, CT | free | 888.226.7711
"JAZZ JAM" | 2 pm | Jamaicaway Books & Gifts, 676 Centre St, Jamaica Plain | free | 617.983.3204
P. UNNIKRISHNAN | 4 pm | Room 32-123 @ Kirsch Auditorium, 32 Vassar St., Cambridge | $14 + $18; 55 students; free for MIT students | 617.258.7971
LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTREAL | See listing for Fri
"THE RAT PACK IS BACK!" | See listing for Thurs

TUESDAY 3

MODERN AMERICAN MUSIC DEPARTMENT FACULTY JAZZ ENSEMBLE | 8 pm | Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St, Cambridge | free | 617.876.0956 x 500

WEDNESDAY 4

DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR + SHIPWRECK + BLACKLISTED + RISE & FALL + IRON AGE + NEW LOWS | 6 pm | Cambridge Elks Lodge, 55 Bishop Richard Allen Dr, Cambridge | $12 | www.myspace.com/cambridgeelks
EVANESCENCE + CHEVELLE + FINGER ELEVEN | 7:30 pm | Dunkin Donuts Center, 1 Lasalle Square, Providence, RI | $35.50 | 401.331.0700
"STAYIN' ALIVE: THE AUSTRALIAN BEE GEES" | Wed + Thurs | 7:30 pm | Cabaret Theatre @ Mohegan Sun, 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd., Uncasville, CT | $35 | 888.226.7711

THURSDAY 5

TAYLOR HICKS | 8 pm | Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom, 169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton, NH | $26–$60 | 603.929.4201
"SPRING ROLL" WITH DJ7L + KNIFE + JOSEPH COLBOURNE | 8 pm | Chez Vous, 11 Rhoades St., Dorchester | 617-825-6877
TAKING BACK SUNDAY | 7:30 pm | Mullins Center, 200 Comm Ave, Amherst | $25 | 413.545.3001
"JAZZ WORSHIP SERVICE" WITH WILLIE SORDILLO TRIO | See listing for previous Thurs
"STAYIN' ALIVE: THE AUSTRALIAN BEE GEES" | See listing for Wed

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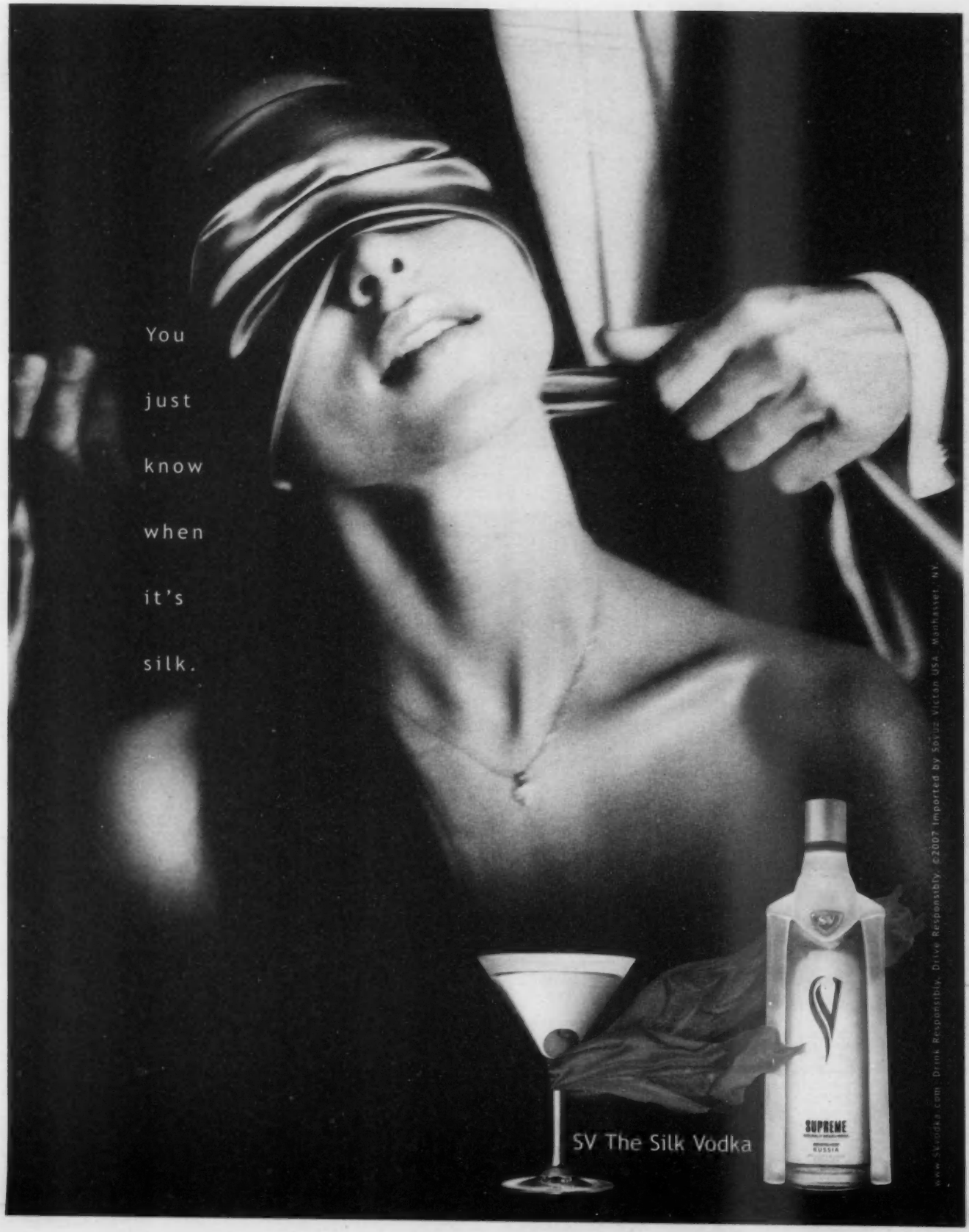
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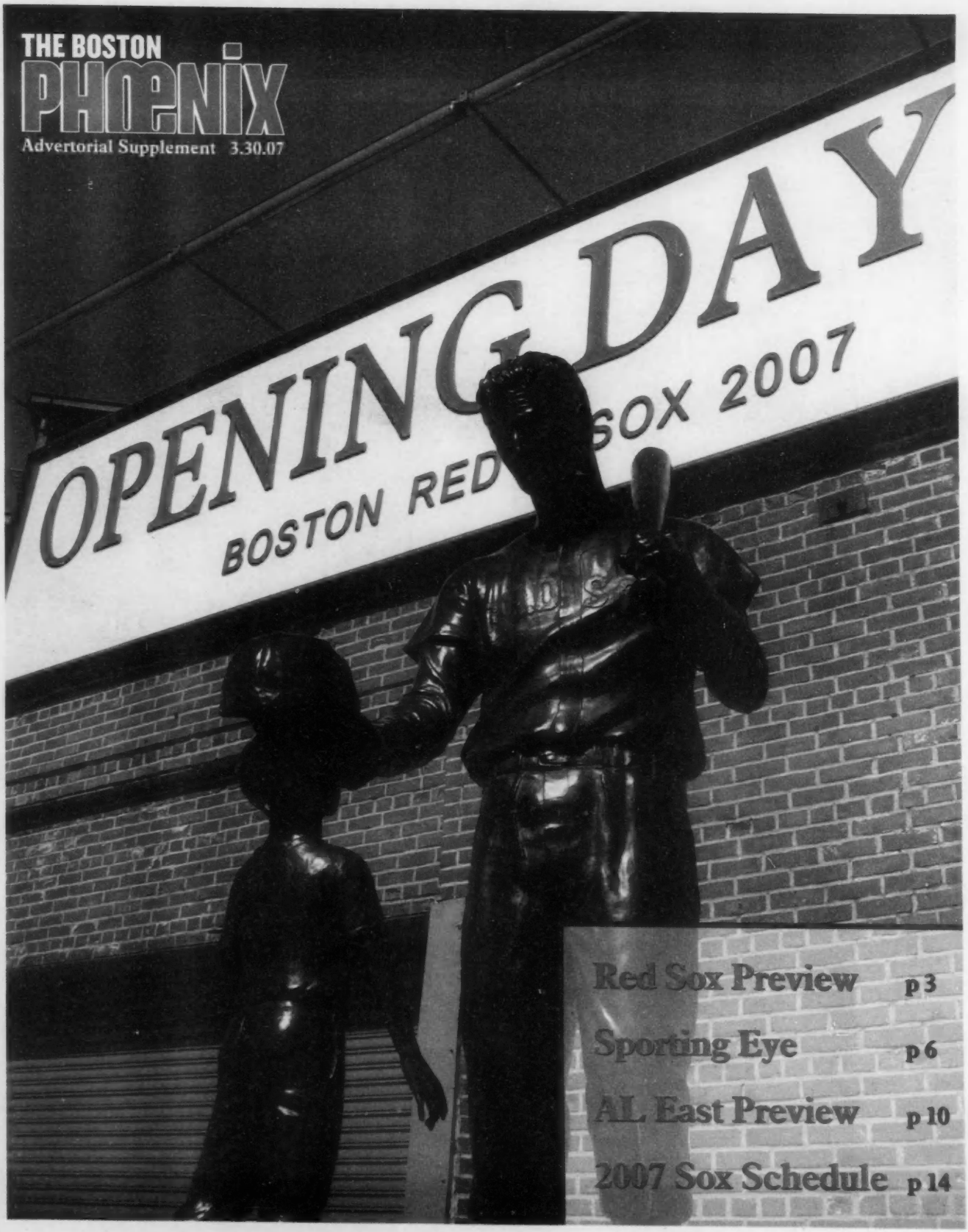

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2007 Sox Schedule p 14

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STOCKED AND READY

With their highest payroll ever, the Red Sox are loaded for bear (and October)

by Christopher Young

The 2006 Boston Red Sox had a payroll of over $120 million, which was still $74 million shy of Major League's Baseball's highest-payrolled team, the You-Know-Whos from the Bronx. Not surprisingly, the Sox finished behind the Yankees in the standings, but what was not quite as expected was the team's third-place finish in the AL East. Yes, on the next-to-last day of the 2006 campaign, the Sox irreversibly fell behind the Jays by a half-game to ultimately finish a full 11 games behind the hated Yankees, and a single game behind the $71-million Torontonians.

Of course, 2006 was a mess from the outset, with general manager Theo Epstein returning from a self-imposed exile, Johnny Damon bolting for the greener pastures of Yankee Stadium, fan favorite Bronson Arroyo being traded to Cincinnati because the Sox believed they had a surplus of starting pitching, and Damon replacement Coco Crisp breaking a finger during the first weekend of play. Oh, there were some good things that happened: new second baseman Mark Loretta hit a game-winning homer in the bottom of the ninth to beat the Mariners on Patriots' Day; newcomers Alex Gonzalez and Mike Lowell proved adept at making dazzling plays at shortstop and third base, respectively (helping the Sox set an MLB record for consecutive errorless games during a 17-game stretch in June); and Curt Schilling bounced back from an injury-plagued 2005 to record 15 wins for the Olde Towne Team. In addition, Boston discovered its new closer in Jonathan Papelbon, David Ortiz set a club record with a whopping 54 home runs (to break Jimmie Foxx's record of 50), and Doug Mirabelli was reacquired to become Tim Wakefield's personal catcher.

But things went horribly wrong, and there was really no one to blame. Injuries started mounting, and though the Sox were still a first-place team in late July, the turning point came in a critical five-game home series against the Pinstripers August 18-21. With the Sox' pitching rotation decimated by the absences of Wakefield, Jon Lester, and Matt Clement (along with additional injuries to Gonzalez, Nixon, Jason Varitek, and Wily Mo Pena), Boston was outscored 49-26 en route to a jarring five-game sweep that expanded the Bombers' lead in the AL East to six-and-a-half games. The Red Sox sleepwalked through the rest of the season – enduring a heart scare to Ortiz, the devastating cancer diagnosis to Lester, Papelbon's early-September shoulder injury, and the consistent absence of Manny Ramirez to leg woes – to finish at 86-76.

But that, as they say, was then. This is now.

Entering the 2007 season, the Sox have but eight players remaining from the squad that, according to "Idiot" Kevin Millar, "shocked the world" by vanquishing the Yankees on its way to the 2004 championship. A thorough housecleaning was even employed on the 2006 team, as Loretta, Gonzalez, David Wells, Nixon, Keith Foulke, Gabe Kapler, Carlos Pena, Adam Stern, and Lenny Dinardo are all now referred to as ex-Soxers.

So now what?

Well, this year's edition of the Boston Red Sox may not be as defensively fine-tuned, but it will be an expensive model: $160 million at last glance, and that's without a verifiable closer. But we'll get to that in a moment.

Are the 2007 Red Sox a third-place team? Not bloody likely, but that's not to say they're a first-place team in the rugged AL East, either. When we last looked, the Yankees had ruled the East roost for nine years running, with the Sox finishing second each and every season until last year's late-season squander. But the Red Sox seemingly improved where they needed to improve during this past off-season, and this year's squad is buoying the team's fan base in fresh and intriguing ways. Let's have a look why.

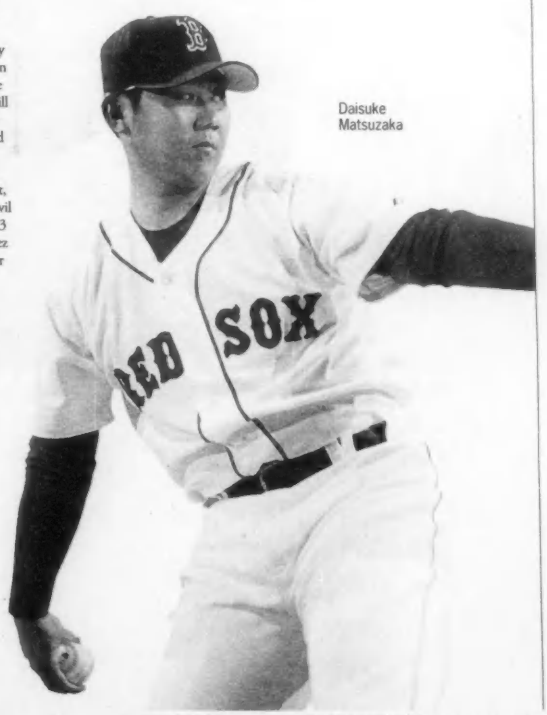
Starting pitching: Clement's signing two years ago was seemingly in response to the departure of Pedro Martinez to the Mets, but to date, Clement's been on the shelf interminably, and Arroyo's departure has proven to be a critical mistake. On the bright side, the acquisition of Josh Beckett in November 2005 should pay dividends down the road, and the arrival of Daisuke Matsuzaka could transform the Sox into another pennant-winning team. People forget that Beckett, despite his troubles last season, did chalk up 16 wins; with new pitching coach John Farrell along to help straighten him out and another year of maturity under his belt, it's not farfetched to think that Beckett – now apparently beyond any recurring blister problems – could again notch double-digit wins for the Sox and perhaps even become a 20-game winner for the first time. He'll likely be in the third slot in the rotation, behind Curt Schilling, who bounced back to win 15 games of his own last season, and the Japanese import, Matsuzaka, who has impressed in spring training and could dazzle and befuddle MLB batters who are unaccustomed to his style and repertoire. The fourth spot was tentatively going to be Papelbon, who because of the wear and tear on his shoulder during his closing duties last season, was not, for long-term health concerns, expected to take that role again. Yet at press time, there was a strong indication that the Sox were willing to roll the dice and reinsert the 6'-4" 26-year-old into the closer's slot; if Papelbon (35 saves, 0.92 ERA in 2006) does return to the bullpen, it's probable that Kyle Snyder or Julian Tavarez will be reinserted into the rotation until Roger Clemens comes riding in on his white horse this summer (not as farfetched as one might think). In the fifth (or fourth) spot of the rotation is Mr. Old Reliable, Wakefield, whose departure from the rotation due to rib soreness last summer marked the prelude to the Sox' downfall in August. Wakefield's 40 now, but his 4.63 ERA was still better than any of the Sox' starters last season (other than Schilling), and he's still a certified Yankee-killer when he's on. Waiting in the wings, should anyone get nicked up again, is the apparently fully-recovered Lester (who at 22 was just getting his first taste of the big leagues before being diagnosed non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in August), who will likely start the season at Pawtucket, while other spot starters from last year's last-season swoon – Snyder, Devern Hansack, Kason Gabbard, and Tavarez, among others – will be on Terry Francona's short list should their services in the rotation be needed. Though two of the Red Sox' starters will be in their 40s on Opening Day, the rotation on paper still seems imposing, and could match up as well or better than some of the league's other staffs (NY, Detroit, and Minnesota in particular).

Offense: Gonzalez was a godsend on defense, but his offense (.255, nine HRs, 50 RBIs), or lack of it, won't be particularly missed. In his place is former Devil Ray Julio Lugo, who hit .308 with 12 home runs in 73 games before a trade-deadline swap sent him to Chavez Ravine. He struggled for the Dodgers, but he's a career .277 hitter and will likely benefit from playing for a winner (and an appreciative audience) for a change. Loretta brought some real leadership to the clubhouse, but his numbers faded in the second half of 2006, and the Sox brass is vesting its hopes that Dustin Pedroia (.191 in 31 games last season) can live up to the expectations that have followed him throughout his rise in the Sox' system. On the corners, both Lowell and Kevin Youkilis are likely to continue their stellar defense while maintaining solid offensive numbers, though Varitek's struggles at the plate last season (.238, 12 HRs, 55 RBIs in 103 games) and this spring are definitely a cause for concern, given his projected workload, age (35 on April 11), and high price tag ($10 million). In the outfield, questions remain about what to expect from Ramirez (who was absent most of last September and whose dedication was questioned by even his most ardent supporters in the clubhouse), Crisp (who never seemingly recovered from the fractured finger, hitting just .264 with eight HRs after a .300/16-HR campaign in 2005), and newcomer J.D. Drew, who will replace the beloved Dirt Dog, Nixon, in right. Drew has thus far gotten a bad rap, since he's not actually injury-prone – it's not exactly his fault that two of his major stints on the DL were as a result of being hit in the hand by pitches. Still, the media has always cast aspersions on the 31-year-old outfielder, and it'll be up to him to win the fans' hearts and justify his ridiculously overpriced free-agent contract (five years, $70 million).

DH: David Ortiz: .287, 54 home runs, 137 RBIs, 115 runs scored, 119 walks. Papi is the Tom Brady of the Red Sox, and if there's one position that has absolutely no concerns surrounding it, it's the designated hitter slot.

Bullpen: At press time, the Red Sox were reportedly on the verge of naming Papelbon the de facto closer. They initially insisted that no circumstances whatsoever would warrant reinserting Papelbon into that role, but the club probably came to the conclusion that with Mike Timlin likely starting off the season on the DL, it would certainly be a shame if a $160-million team found itself losing on a fairly regular basis because it had nobody effective enough to consistently get the final three outs of a close game. In the meantime, there thankfully will be no "Closer by Committee" to replicate the disastrous start of the 2003 season, and if it's not Papelbon closing, we will instead see somebody like Tavarez, former Angel Brendan Donnelly, ex-Mariner Joel Piniero, newcomer J.C. Romero, Snyder, or perhaps one of the young bucks (Craig Hansen, Manny Delcarmen) entering the game to close the door. Yet everyone will likely sleep better knowing Papelbon and his death stare will man the mound in the ninth inning, and the Red Sox overall have just become that much more imposing as they enter the 2007 season. ■

Christopher Young is a freelance writer living in Wrentham, Massachusetts.



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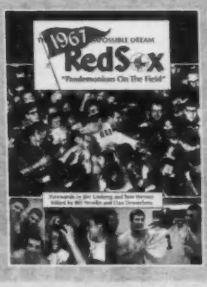

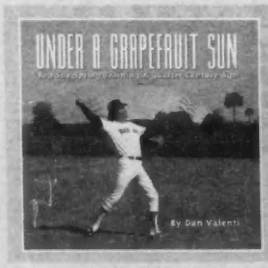

Essays, interviews, and stunning unseen photos of Red Sox spring training from the early 1980s, including images of Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, Jim Rice, and many others.

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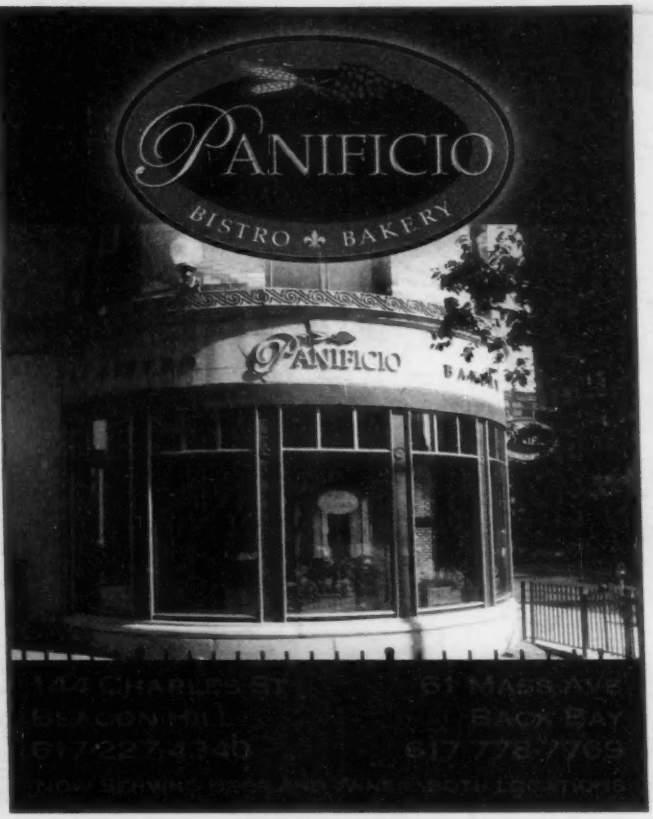

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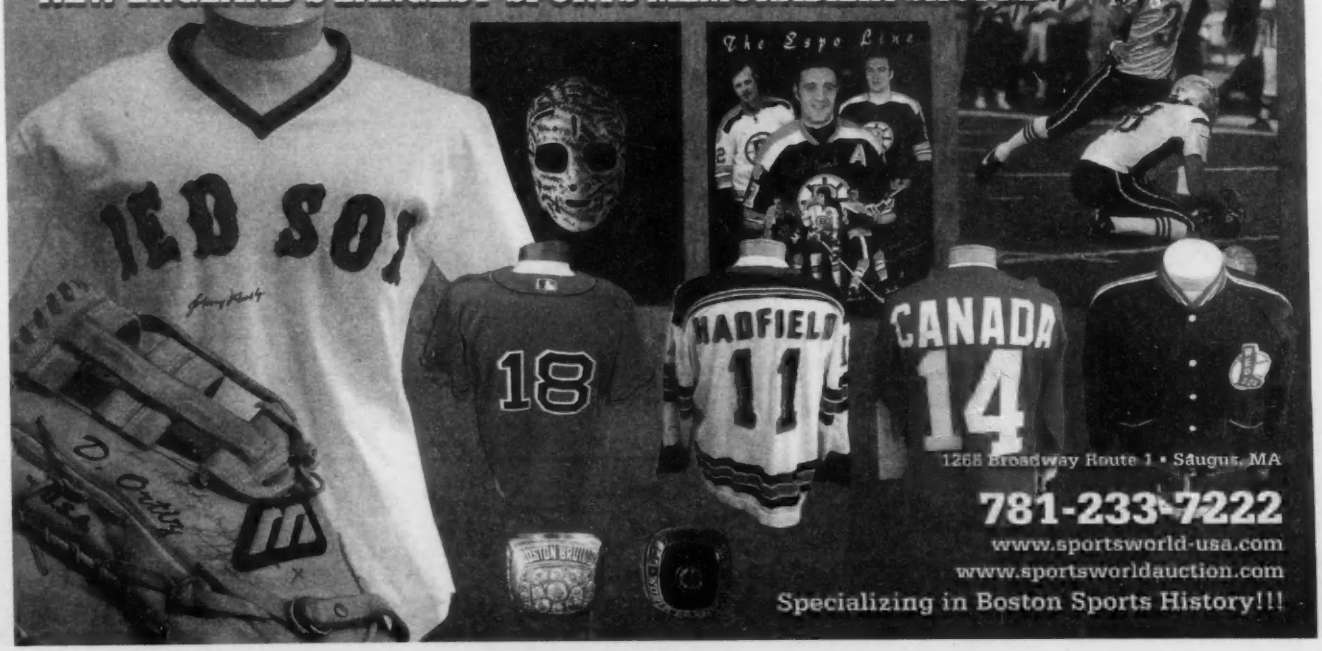

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SPORTING EYE

HALL PASSES

What current major-leaguers are Cooperstown-bound?

By Christopher Young

Manny Ramirez? Si señor

The Rocket, Roger Clemens? Sure-fire

This July, Cal Ripken and Tony Gwynn – two superstars who somehow managed to play their entire major-league careers with their original teams (Baltimore and San Diego, respectively) – will deservedly be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. The future inductions of some other stars from the past remain in doubt, as Jim Rice, Bert Blyleven, Goose Gossage, and Mark McGwire, among others, will have to wait and see if their calls from the Hall come to pass.

While they wait, the 2007 Major League Baseball campaign is about to begin, and a whole lot of current players will spend the season burnishing their credentials for the possibility that they, too, like Ripken and Gwynn, will someday be invited to the small upstate-NY hamlet of Cooperstown for a party in their honor. Which players have likely already secured a bronze bust in the hallowed halls (noted in bold below), and which still have a ways to go – but are on the right track? Let's take a look at all 30 MLB teams and their prospects.

Pudge Rodriguez? Has earned his stripes

Arizona. The team that just five-plus years ago was a World Series champion is now a shell of its former self, albeit a team loaded with young talent. The squad's only sure-fire candidate for induction is the prodigal son himself, **Randy Johnson**, who returns to the desert after two years in the barren wasteland of the Bronx. Where to start: 10 All-Star selections, five Cy Youngs, 280 wins (31st all-time), and 4544 strikeouts (third all-time). When he gets in, the 6'-10" lefty will become the tallest MLB player ever enshrined.

Atlanta. The Braves appear on the down side after 14 straight NL East crowns, but they still have a trio of Cooperstown hopefuls. **John Smoltz**, who two years ago returned to the rotation in 2005 after a three-year stint in the bullpen, is likely a lock for Cooperstown because of a unique set of statistics that only a starter/closer hybrid like Dennis Eckersley can match: 193 career wins and 154 saves. This season will mark Smoltz's 19th season in the big leagues, and his total of 2778 strikeouts is already 19th all-time, and his ERA of 3.27 is seventh among active pitchers. Chipper Jones still has a shot, too, with his .304 career average over 10-plus pro seasons along with an MVP and five All-Star berths, but he'll likely have to keep up with the other Jones on the team, Andruw, who's accumulated 342 career home runs and nine Gold Gloves before he's even 30 years old.

Martinez? Vote for Pedro!

Baltimore. It wasn't that long ago that it seemed a foregone conclusion that Rafael Palmeiro would be following the modern-day Iron Man as the Orioles' next Hall-of-Famer, but steroids accusations continue to haunt Palmeiro's bid despite no-doubt-about-it HOF statistics. Right now, though, Palmeiro, like McGwire, is being temporarily blacklisted, and will likely have to wait until the likes of Barry Bonds and his (possible) steroid-fueled numbers come up to a vote in about six or seven years. In the meantime, the only other Baltimorean who has even a shot right now is shortstop Miguel Tejada, who is on a bit of Ripkenesque streak of his own (1,080 consecutive games played; to pass Ripken's feat of 2,632, Miggy would have to play every game between now and 2016). Yet Tejada, despite 10 MLB seasons, has not even managed to crack the top 30 among active players in any major statistical category, and he's a career .286 hitter with no Gold Gloves and but one MVP award (for the A's in 2002). He's only 30, but he'll have to post some much bigger numbers to launch any serious discussions.

Jim Edmonds? May be in the Cards

Boston. The Sox have two realistic contenders who, if they were forced to retire today, might be able to boast the résumé needed to guarantee enshrinement. Curt Schilling's decision to pitch beyond 2007 may have had something to do with his credentials being a little borderline at this time, but another solid season or two and he won't have to sweat out that January phone call. His heroics in the Sox' 2004 post-season certainly padded his credentials, but 207 career wins are still quite a bit short in most voters' eyes (although he's ninth in total victories among active pitchers). Still, he's a two-time World Series champ, his 3015 career Ks are 14th all-time, and his ERA is a respectable 3.44. If Schilling can retain his prowess in his 40s, then a top-10 career-strikeout total is within reach, and that should guarantee him a slot. **Manny Ramirez** is the only other Soxer worth debating, and his career stats have undoubtedly put him on the fast track to enshrinement (can you imagine his induction speech someday?). He's had nine .300-plus/30 HR seasons and a batting title in his career, and with 470 home runs (400 is usually a clincher for the Hall unless your name is Kingman or Canseco) and a .314 career average, the 34-year-old is a solid candidate based on his all-around offensive numbers, and should make it handily.

Chicago. The free-spending Cubbies are a trendy pick to finally win a World Series in 2007, but if they do, it'll be accomplished with no Hall-of-Fame definites, only a few possibles, which include up-and-comers Derrek Lee, Carlos Zambrano, and former National Alfonso Soriano. Right now, none of those players is even remotely worthy of discussion for Cooperstown.

Chicago WS. Despite Chicago's 2005 World Series title, right now only one Pale Hoser is a sure thing: first baseman **Jim Thome**. Though oft-injured, Thome has put up tremendous power numbers over the course of his 16-year career. He's only a lifetime .282 hitter, but like his former Injuns teammate, Manny Ramirez, Thome could crack the 500-HR mark this summer (he needs 28), and that's already good for 25th all-time. Add to that the fact that he's always been affable and a clubhouse leader, and you've got a glowing referral.

Cincinnati. There's only one Redleg even remotely within range, and that's the DL's favorite center fielder, **Ken Griffey Jr.** It's difficult for a lot of fans to remember back when Junior was a consistently electrifying performer, but he's got the stats to back it up (.291 career BA, 542 HRs). The dinger total alone should qualify him, but he also boasts 12 All-Star berths, 10 Gold Gloves, the 1997 AL MVP award, and seven Silver Slugger awards (given to the top hitter at his position). Can you believe he's 37 already? No one else on the roster merits consideration.

Cleveland. Grady Sizemore and Travis Hafner seem like future candidates-in-the-making, but they're way too young (24 and 29, respectively) to have earned enough credentials yet.

Colorado. Can you name a Rockie, much less a Rockie star? Todd Helton, maybe, but his numbers (.333 BA, 286 HRs) could be viewed as enhanced by the thin air of his career home park, Coors Field. And don't even mention the possibility of Byung-Hyun Kim getting in.

Detroit. Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez (13 All-Star berths, 12 Gold Gloves, .304 career average) is a shoo-in, as is newly-arrived **Gary Sheffield** (nine All-Star berths, a batting title in 1992, and 455 career homers to go with a .297 career average), unless steroids suspicions put the kibosh on their candidacies; closer Troy Percival and his 342 career saves (11th all-time) is less certain. At least 375 saves is probably the key number — which would put him top-five right behind The Eck — but the 36-year-old former Halo left the Tigers' camp late last month after a recurrence of some elbow problems, and his future would appear to be in doubt. Without more numbers to pad his résumé, Percival is probably going to fall short.

Florida. Lots of up-and-comers on this low-payrolled team, but hardly any veterans (save for Sox-killer Aaron Boone, who at 34 is the team's oldest player by far), and therefore no realistic entrants.

Houston. Roger Clemens is our generation's no-doubt-about-it Hall-of-Famer. When and if he retires, that is. Another surefire inductee is not such a household name: **Craig Biggio**. Now entering his 20th season for the Astros, Biggio isn't much known outside of Houston, but his numbers are Hall-worthy; you can look it up, or I can save you the trouble: 2930 hits (tops among active players, and 31st all-time), 1776 runs scored (18th all-time), and 637 doubles (ninth all-time) to go with seven All-Star selections, four Gold Gloves, and five Silver Sluggers. He has played in more games with the same team (2709) than any other active player, and his career average is still .283 at age 41.

Kansas City. Nope. You're not surprised, are you?

Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. After toiling in obscurity for eight seasons in Montreal, Vladimir Guerrero tested free agency two years ago, got himself a megabucks contract, and then showed his sleek adaptation to the AL by earning league MVP honors. He's one of the most feared hitters in the game, and his numbers bear this out (.325 career average, 338 home runs, seven All-Star berths – and Lord knows how come he hasn't won any Gold Gloves for his superior arm in right field), and if he keeps this up, the 31-year-old Dominican will surely land in Cooperstown.

LA Dodgers. Nobody really jumps out at us, although Luis Gonzalez, Nomah, and Jeff Kent could state their case. Nonetheless, none of them has been a truly "special" player for a while, and their glory days are likely well behind them. And if you're thinking about new ace Jason Schmidt, he's only collected 127 wins over the course of his first 14 seasons, which hardly makes him worth the three-year, $47-million contract LA just shelled out for his services.

Milwaukee. Ben Sheets logged at least 10 wins in each of his first five seasons (before posting a 6-7 log in an injury-plagued 2006), but that hardly gives him a free pass to Cooperstown (unless he does it for the next 15 years as well).

Minnesota. Surprisingly, also none — at least at this juncture. Check back when Johan Santana, Joe Mauer, Justin Morneau, and Francisco Loriano have a few more miles on their tires.

New York Mets. Pedro Martinez? Check. **Tom Glavine** (290 wins, 3.46 ERA)? Yessir, or as some might put it, yessah. The Carloses, Beltran and Delgado? Certainly on the right track. And what about closer Billy Wagner? He's got 324 career saves, which is tied for 11th all-time, and a decent season will find him all alone in seventh place, right behind Eckersley (fifth; 390) and Jeff Reardon (sixth; 367). Add to that veterans like Moises Alou, Shawn Green, and the ageless Julio Franco (who will turn 49 this August) and a lot of up-and-comers on this team, and the Mets would seem to be a solid pick to do some damage in the NL this season. But hey, this ain't no preview column!

New York Yankees. Whoo boy. Locks: **Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Alex Rodriguez**, and manager **Joe Torre**. Then you've got some interesting possibilities: how about Mike Mussina (five All-Star berths, six Gold Gloves, 239 wins, 2572 strikeouts, but no 20-win seasons, Cy Youngs or World Series titles)? How about Andy Pettitte? Sorry, but 186 career wins just doesn't cut it yet. Bobby Abreu (.302 career BA, 187 HRs)? Not as such. Jason Giambi? Johnny Damon? Hideki Matsui? Hey, how come a team with all these All-Stars and potential ones hasn't won a World Series since 2000?

Oakland. Nobody's done a better job of grooming future superstars – and then letting them go via trade or free agency – than the A's. Don't believe me? How about the aforementioned Tejada and Giambi, along with pitchers Tim Hudson, Barry Zito, and Mark Mulder? Well, the A's do have one bona-fide future Hall-of-Famer on the roster, but he came the roundabout way – via LA, Florida, and Flushing Meadows: **Mike Piazza**. Yep, he's here in the Bay Area, and he's got the goods, all right: 12 All-Star selections, a Rookie of the Year award, 10 Silver Sluggers, 409 home runs, and a .309 career batting average. Enough said.

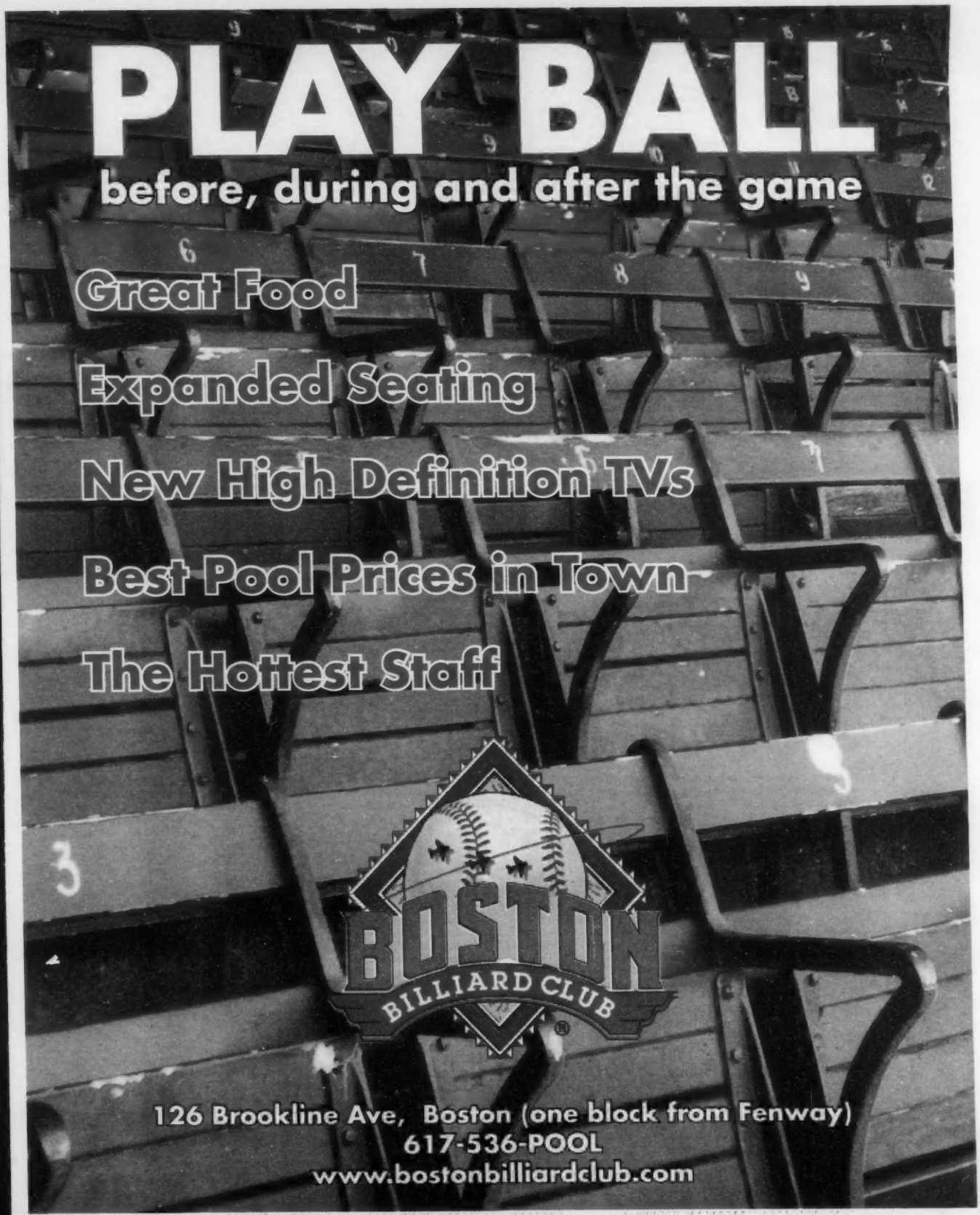
Philadelphia. Some solid players here (Ryan Howard, Chase Utley, Aaron Rowand, Jimmy Rollins), but no one that should be mentioned in the same breath yet with the likes of Schmidt, Rose, and Carlton.

Pittsburgh. Not since Barry Bonds fled for the West Coast has there been a player of Hall-of-Fame caliber playing in the Steel City. Fifteen long years and counting.

St. Louis. Lotsa guys on the fast track (Scott Rolen, Albert Pujols, Chris Carpenter, Jim Edmonds), but only the latter (four All-Star berths, eight Gold Gloves, 350 HRs, .298 BA) is close to a certainty right now, and he's got a little more to prove that he's Hall-worthy.

San Diego. Trevor Hoffman (482 saves), who is

Hall Passes cont'd on p. 10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AL East Preview

HEY, BIG SPENDERS

It'll be another fight to the finish for the AL East combatants

by Christopher Young

Are Red Sox fans scared of the Yankees? How about those pesky Blue Jays, who nudged the Red Sox out of second place last season for the first time since 1997? Well, Sox fans will always have a special place in their heart for the Pinstripers, and they know full well that while Boston's World Series drought is only a couple of years, the Yankees' is six and counting – eons for a team that won four of five titles in the late '90s and has routinely been the highest-payrolled team for the last eight seasons (and whose $190-million collection of characters outdistances the second-ranked Red Sox' by a measly $30 million in 2007).

Prognosticators are not surprisingly picking the Yankees to win the AL East, and likely the whole chalupa, again this season. Why not? They have a team loaded with All-Stars and veterans, and their three outfield salaries ($28.8 million) alone double the entire Florida Marlins' roster payout from 2006.

Me? I see flaws, just like I see in every major-league team, including the Red Sox and the defending-champion Cardinals. I think this is the season that the Red Sox overtake the Yankees in the AL East for the first time since a Democrat was president, but I can't rule out that the Blue Jays won't be in the mix as well, even though they've got some problems of their own. Let's break down the AL East, shall we?

Boston: See "Stocked and Ready" elsewhere in this section.

New York: Biased? Perhaps, but I still see an aging team in the Bronx, and while the Yankees have admittedly done a nice job restocking their farm system and properly grooming some of their minor-league talent, they're still a team that will rely on the fortunes of two particular players: Alex Rodriguez and Roger Clemens. The latter, of course, is not currently on the Yankees' roster, but should he decide to join his fellow Texan, Andy Pettitte, for a second go-round in pinstripes this summer, it potentially changes the whole complexion of the divisional, and league, race. Adding the Rocket to the Bombers' staff gives the team a rotation that will mow down most of the lineups in the American League, although it may meet its match against some of the AL's more potent offenses (like the Red Sox', Twins', or Jays', in particular). Yet while Boston will have a couple of 40-year-olds in the starting rotation, the Yanks will also have their share of elder statesman throwing the pill on a nightly basis. New York's improbable "ace," Chien-Ming Wang, went 19-6 with a 3.63 ERA last year, but at age 27, he'll be the youngest Yankee starter by far this season (other than newcomer Kei Igawa). The rest of the rotation is rounded out by the likes of Mike Mussina, (whose pricey option was not picked up by the team but who re-signed at a lower figure during the off-season), who is 38 years old; Pettitte, who's returning to the Bronx following three reasonably successful seasons in his hometown of Houston (which included a World Series trip in 2005, which he missed because of injury) but who will turn 35 in June and is coming off a 14-13, 4.20 ERA 2006 season; and Carl Pavano, who signed a four-year, $40-million free-agent deal two years ago only to miss all of last season to injury, and was just 4-6 (with an ERA near five) the year before that in the first year of his newly-signed contract. Before he joined the Yankees, he was 18-8 for the Marlins, but he had posted losing records in five of the seven prior seasons leading up to that breakout 2004 campaign. Rounding out the Yankees' rotation will be their own Japanese import, the 27-year-old lefty Igawa, who comes to MLB with only a fraction of the fanfare that accompanied the Sox' Matsuzaka signing. In the bullpen, Mariano Rivera remains a formidable adversary, but he's 37 years old, as is lefty specialist Mike Myers.

I know, I know, the powerhouse Yankees lineup will make mincemeat of most opposing pitchers on any given night, but I also have concerns about the age factor of their hitters, and thus the potential for injuries. Let's go down the list: Johnny Damon (33), Derek Jeter (33 in June), Bobby Abreu (33), Rodriguez (32 in July), Jason Giambi (36), Hideki Matsui (33 in June), Jorge Posada (36 in August), superstar-in-the-making Robinson Cano (a pipsqueak at 24), and new first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz (33 in June). That's but one guy in his 20s in the entire lineup, and for the rest of them, well, as Indiana Jones says to Karen Allen in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, "It's not the years, honey, it's the mileage."

Truth be told, if the Yankees go through any kind of injury bug similar to what the Red Sox endured last season, they'll be in big trouble. That applies to the hurlers as well as the position players, because most of the Yankees' payroll is invested in its big-name components, while the rest of the roster is comprised of relative no-names. Other than Pavano and Matsui (wrist) last season, the Yankees missed very few man-games to injury, but these things have a tendency to even out, and if the Pinstripers end up having to plug holes with the likes of Wil Nieves (catcher), Kevin Thompson (OF), Josh Phelps (INF), or any of their little-known bullpen staff, then the $190-million destroyer will likely spring some leaks.

Toronto: Toronto has actually improved on its already-powerful offense from last season, as GM J.P. Ricciardi was allowed to up the team payroll from $72 million to $90 million. While that's still less than half of the Yankees' cash outlay, it's still a big deal north of the border, where last season's second-place finish (albeit 10 games behind NY) led Jays fans to envision even bigger things this year. That may yet happen, but while the addition of veteran Frank Thomas to the 2006 additions (Troy Glaus, Lyle Overbay) may boost the offense, the fact remains that Toronto has big questions beyond its first two pitchers out of the gate. A.J. Burnett was somewhat of a success in his debut season for the Jays (10-8, 3.98 ERA), but he's still basically a career .500 pitcher (59-58). Roy Halladay (16-5, 3.19) is a perennial Cy Young candidate, but he's only taking the ball once every five days, and starters three-four-five are dubious at best. Gone is former starter Ted Lilly (15-13, 4.32), and his loss will certainly be felt because the likely candidates to round out the rotation are Gustavo Chacin, who is coming off an injury-plagued 2006, former Brave John Thomson, who went 2-7 while battling his own arm woes, and perhaps former Red Sox dud Toma Ohka, who is 48-58 lifetime. The Jays will score plenty of runs off the bats of Vernon Wells, Alex Rios, Reed Johnson, and the aforementioned recent arrivals, but offense can only take you so far, and with Burnett's and Halladay's history of missed time, the Blue Jays could be birds on a wire for the duration of the 2007 campaign.

Baltimore: Someday we will speak of the Orioles in terms befitting their remarkable history, but this is not that year. The Birds will be lucky to avoid the cellar, and they will struggle both offensively and pitching-wise, as their roster is putrid inside and out.

Tampa Bay: And someday we will speak of the Devil Rays in reverential tones, because as long as they can keep together their roster of young, promising players, the team's outlook is bright. But right now, their pitching will struggle beyond Scott Kazmir, and their offense is simply not experienced nor potent enough to offset the fact that their starters will routinely surrender six-plus runs on a nightly basis. ■

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Hall Passes cont'd from p. 6

now the all-time saves leader, is finally a definite; so is **Greg Maddux**, whose total of 333 victories is 10th on the all-time list (and whose strikeout total of 3189 is 12th). David Wells and his 230 wins (and prodigious gut) will likely not make it.

San Francisco. Hold your nose and acknowledge the guaranteed (if not first-ballot) election of Mr. **Barry Bonds**. Otherwise, Omar Vizquel could generate some Ozzie Smith–type backing for his defensive wizardry, new arrival Barry Zito will need to build on his 102-win total to be included in this discussion, and 34-year-old closer Armando Benitez (280 saves, 22nd all-time) probably needs to surpass 300 (saves, not pounds) to warrant further consideration.

Seattle. Ichiro Suzuki is a phenom, without a doubt, but do six superlative seasons in the American bigs necessary translate to a Hall-of-Fame invite? Most of the 33-year-old's prime seasons were spent in Japan, and those stats don't count when it comes to the BBWAA vote. Let's see how long and how productive Ichiro is in his remaining years, and maybe we'll change our mind about his chances.

Tampa Bay. Shirley, you can't be serious.

Texas. A trio of players worthy of discussion here near Big D. First, Kevin Millwood? Not with a mere 123 wins and one All-Star berth in 10 seasons in the big leagues. Eric Gagne? Let's see how he holds up after major elbow and back surgery in recent years, though his three All-Star berths, a 2003 Cy Young, and 161-save total are nothing to sniff at. But here's the most intriguing one: Sammy Sosa. Slammin' Sammy has resurfaced after a year in the wilderness and has earned a spot on the Rangers' opening-day roster. His credentials are unquestioned: seven All-Star selections, six Silver Sluggers, the 1998 NL MVP, and a whopping 588 home runs (third all-time). But can he, like his pal, Mark McGwire, rise above the steroid suspicions to become electable? Stay tuned. In the meantime, he's making a comeback in Arlington, and if he's really all the way back, he'll be hitting the 600-HR plateau soon, and that select company will be difficult to ignore.

Toronto. We may well be talking about A.J. Burnett (59-58 to this point), B.J. Ryan (80 career saves), Roy Halladay (95 wins), Troy Glaus (257 career homers), and even Vernon Wells (139 home runs over the last five seasons) as potential HoFers someday, but right now there's only one can't-miss inductee on the Jays' roster: **Frank Thomas**. Left for dead a couple of years ago, the Big Hurt revived his career in Oakland last season, and now can present his credentials proudly: 487 HRs (fourth among active players, 23rd all-time); 1579 RBIs (third among actives, seventh all-time); five-time All-Star; two-time MVP; 1997 AL batting king. Cooperstown will be readying your room at the Otesaga Hotel soon, Frank. Just don't screw up your career irreversibly before you get there.

Washington. First in war, first in peace, and last in the NL East and in terms of potential HoF candidates. ■

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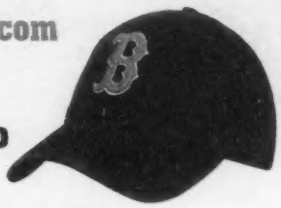

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Mon., April 2 – at Kansas City, 2:05 p.m. (ESPN)
Wed., April 4 – at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., April 5 – at Kansas City, 2:10 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., April 6 – at Texas, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., April 7 – at Texas, 8:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., April 8 – at Texas, 8:05 p.m. (ESPN)
Tues., April 10 – SEATTLE, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., April 11 – SEATTLE, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., April 12 – SEATTLE, 4:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., April 13 – LA ANGELS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., April 14 – LA ANGELS, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., April 15 – LA ANGELS, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., April 16 – LA ANGELS, 10:05 a.m. (NESN)
Tues., April 17 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., April 18 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., April 19 – at Toronto, 12:37 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., April 20 – NY YANKEES, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., April 21 – NY YANKEES, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., April 22 – NY YANKEES, 8:05 p.m. (ESPN)
Mon., April 23 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., April 24 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., April 25 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., April 26 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., April 27 – at NY Yankees, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., April 28 – at NY Yankees, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., April 29 – at NY Yankees, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)

MAY
Tues., May 1 – OAKLAND, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., May 2 – OAKLAND, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., May 4 – at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., May 5 – at Minnesota, 7:10 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., May 6 – at Minnesota, 2:10 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., May 8 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., May 9 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., May 10 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., May 11 – BALTIMORE, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., May 12 – BALTIMORE, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., May 13 – BALTIMORE, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., May 14 – DETROIT, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., May 15 – DETROIT, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., May 16 – DETROIT, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., May 17 – DETROIT, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., May 18 – ATLANTA, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., May 19 – ATLANTA, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., May 20 – ATLANTA, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., May 21 – at NY Yankees, 7:05 p.m. (NESN/ESPN)
Tues., May 22 – at NY Yankees, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., May 23 – at NY Yankees, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., May 25 – at Texas, 8:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., May 26 – at Texas, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., May 27 – at Texas, 3:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon, May 28 – CLEVELAND, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., May 29 – CLEVELAND, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., May 30 – CLEVELAND, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)

JUNE
Fri., June 1 – NY YANKEES, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., June 2 – NY YANKEES, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., June 3 – NY YANKEES, TBD (TBD
Mon., June 4 – at Oakland, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., June 5 – at Oakland, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., June 6 – at Oakland, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., June 7 – at Oakland, 3:35 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., June 8 – at Arizona, 9:40 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., June 9 – at Arizona, 9:40 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., June 10 – at Arizona, 4:40 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., June 12 – COLORADO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., June 13 – COLORADO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., June 14 – COLORADO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., June 15 – SAN FRANCISCO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., June 16 – SAN FRANCISCO, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., June 17 – SAN FRANCISCO, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., June 18 – at Atlanta, 7:05 p.m. (NESN/ESPN)
Tues., June 19 – at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., June 20 – at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., June 22 – at San Diego, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., June 23 – at San Diego, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., June 24 – at San Diego, 4:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., June 25 – at Seattle, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., June 26 – at Seattle, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., June 27 – at Seattle, 4:35 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., June 29 – TEXAS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., June 30 – TEXAS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)

JULY
Sun., July 1 – TEXAS, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., July 2 – TEXAS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., July 3 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., July 4 – TAMPA BAY, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., July 5 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., July 6 – at Detroit, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., July 7 – at Detroit, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., July 8 – at Detroit, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
> (All-Star break)
Thurs., July 12 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., July 13 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., July 14 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., July 15 – TORONTO, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., July 16 – KANSAS CITY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., July 17 – KANSAS CITY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., July 18 – KANSAS CITY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., July 19 – CHICAGO WS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., July 20 – CHICAGO WS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., July 21 – CHICAGO WS, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., July 22 – CHICAGO WS, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., July 23 – at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., July 24 – at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., July 25 – at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., July 26 – at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., July 27 – at Tampa Bay, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., July 28 – at Tampa Bay, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., July 29 – at Tampa Bay, 1:40 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., July 31 – BALTIMORE, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)

AUGUST
Wed., August 1 – BALTIMORE, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., August 2 – BALTIMORE, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., August 3 – at Seattle, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., August 4 – at Seattle, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., August 5 – at Seattle, 4:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., August 6 – at LA Angels, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., August 7 – at LA Angels, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., August 8 – at LA Angels, 10:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., August 10 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., August 11 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., August 12 – at Baltimore, 1:35 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., August 14 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., August 15 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., August 16 – TAMPA BAY, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., August 17 – LA ANGELS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., August 18 – LA ANGELS, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., August 19 – LA ANGELS, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., August 20 – at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., August 21 – at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., August 22 – at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., August 23 – at Chicago WS, 8:11 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., August 24 – at Chicago WS, 8:11 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., August 25 – at Chicago WS, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., August 26 – at Chicago WS, TBD (TBD)
Tues., August 28 – at NY Yankees, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., August 29 – at NY Yankees, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., August 30 – at NY Yankees, 1:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., August 31 – BALTIMORE, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)

SEPTEMBER
Sat., September 1 – BALTIMORE, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., September 2 – BALTIMORE, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., September 3 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., September 4 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., September 5 – TORONTO, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., September 6 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., September 7 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., September 8 – at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., September 9 – at Baltimore, 1:35 p.m. (NESN)
Mon., September 10 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., September 11 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., September 12 – TAMPA BAY, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., September 14 – NY YANKEES, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., September 15 – NY YANKEES, 3:55 p.m. (FOX)
Sun., September 16 – NY YANKEES, TBD (TBD)
Mon., September 17 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., September 18 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., September 19 – at Toronto, 7:07 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., September 21 – at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., September 22 – at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., September 23 – at Tampa Bay, 1:40 p.m. (NESN)
Tues., September 25 – OAKLAND, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Wed., September 26 – OAKLAND, 5:05 p.m. (NESN)
Thurs., September 27 – MINNESOTA, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Fri., September 28 – MINNESOTA, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sat., September 29 – MINNESOTA, 7:05 p.m. (NESN)
Sun., September 30 – MINNESOTA, 2:05 p.m. (NESN)

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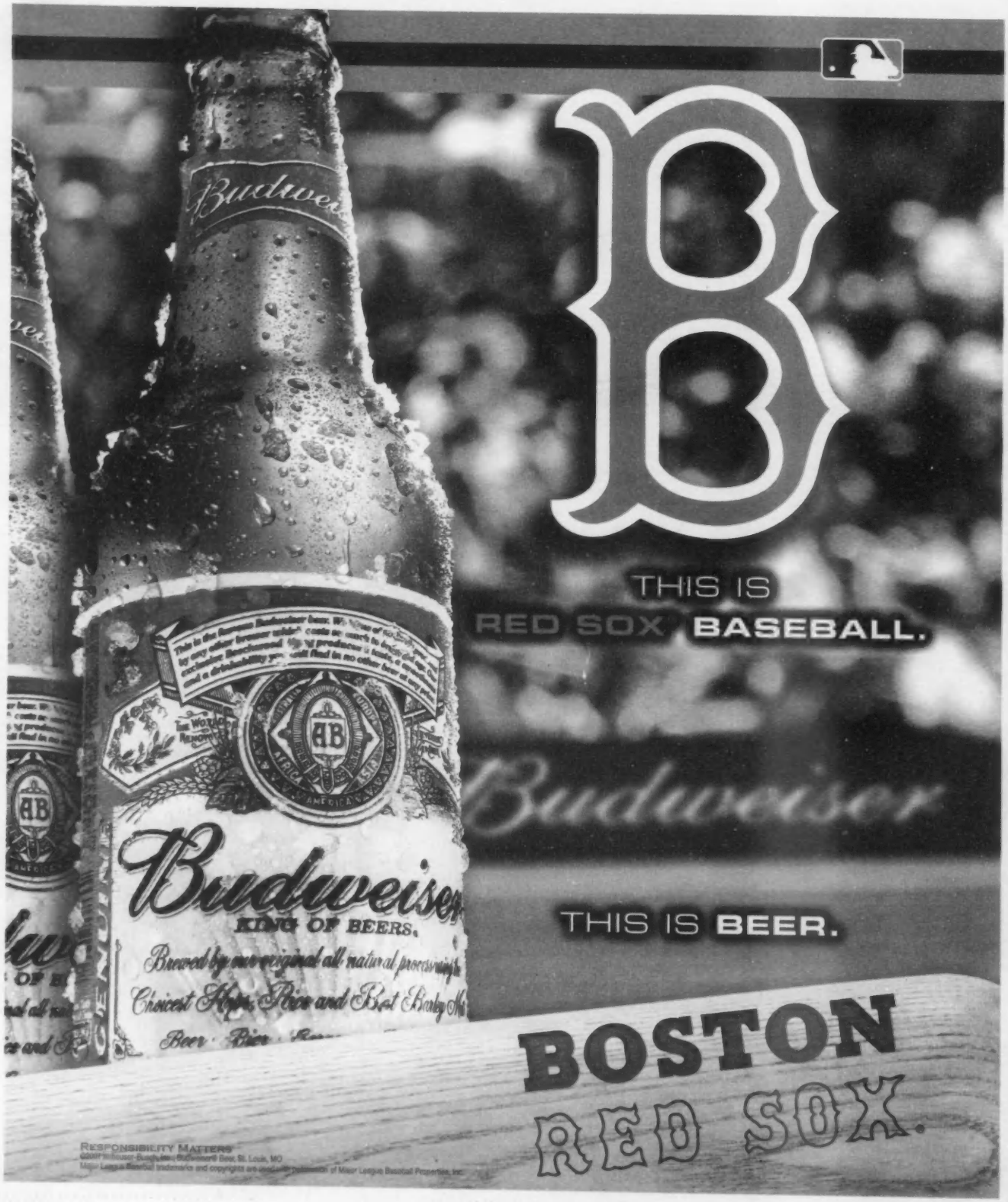
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BEST OF BOSTON

See CLASSICAL | p 27

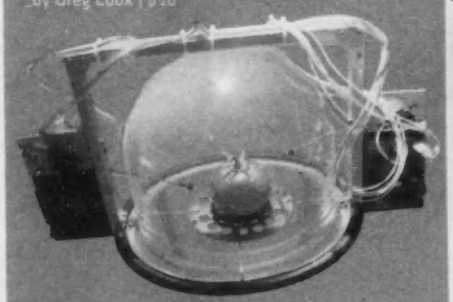
MICHAEL LUTCH

ART

'IT'S ALIVE!'

BIO-TECH IN BEVERLY

by Greg Cook | p 20



THEATER

FAITH HEALING?

MISS WITHERSPOON, THERESA AT HOME

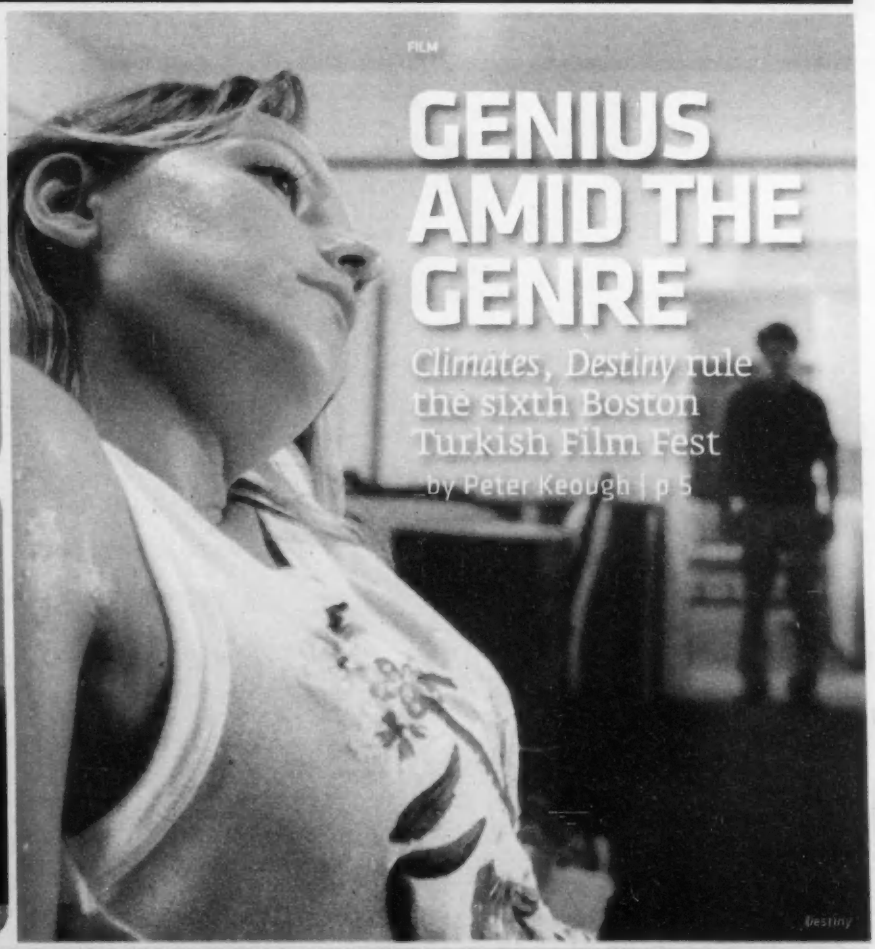
by Carolyn Clay | p 16

FILM

GENIUS AMID THE GENRE

Climates, *Destiny* rule the sixth Boston Turkish Film Fest

by Peter Keough | p 5



Destiny

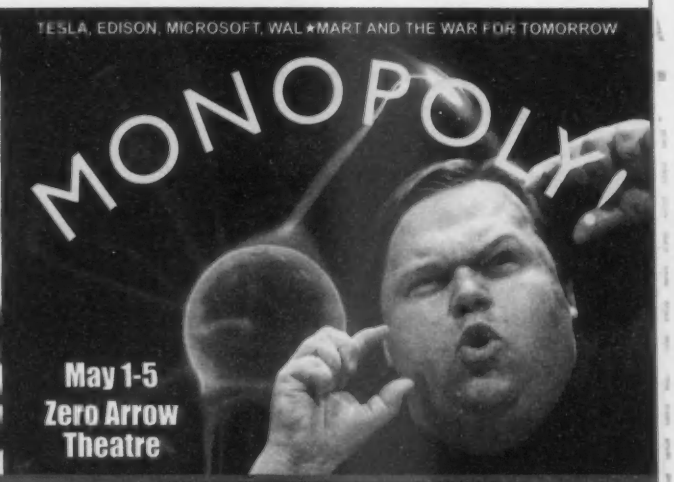
BOOKS A JANE DOE IN JERUSALEM?
A.B. Yehoshua sorts it out | p 26

FILM STRIPS
Boston's best capsules | p 9

TWO SHOWS FROM MASTER STORYTELLER

MIKE DAISEY

"One of the finest solo performers of his generation!" – New York Times



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8 DAYS A WEEK

A ROUND-UP OF NOTABLE HAPPENINGS _EDITED BY SHARON STE

The Muppets Take Manhattan

VELVET VAUDEVILLEANS

FRIDAY-TUESDAY | The Brattle Theatre has outdone itself with **"MUPPETS, MUSIC & MAGIC,"** 15 programs that include Muppet movies (everything but *Muppet Treasure Island*), Jim Henson movies (*The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*, *Mirrormask*), musical performances from the TV show (remember Don Knotts in "Lullaby of Birdland"?), experimental shorts, a Muppet history (the tribute to the Seven Deadly Sins . . .), and much more. Return to those thrilling days of Muppet yesteryear at the Brattle, 40 Brattle St, Cambridge | 617.876.6837.

THURSDAY 29

WHERE THE MUSIC BEGINS

After this weekend we won't have Jimmy to kick around anymore this season. Not that we've been kicking him around much to begin with. He was set to go out with a BSO 125th-anniversary commission, Gunther Schuller's *Where the Word Ends*, but as tends to happen with such commissions, the composition didn't end in time for the performance to take place, so **JAMES LEVINE** and the **BSO** will instead do Schuller's *Seven Studies on Themes of Paul Klee* on a packed program with Mozart's Symphony No. 25, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17, with **ALFRED BRENDEL**, and Ravel *Daphnis et Chloé* Suite No. 2 | Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | March 29-31 @ 8 pm | $29-$111 | 617.266.1200 or www.bso.org.

PASS THE GIZZARDS

Even the Bard had his Quentin Tarantino moment; he just had it 370 years before Quentin was born. You don't get many chances to see Shakespeare's early bloodbath set in the decaying Roman Empire, but Actors' Shakespeare Project is doing ***TITUS ANDRONICUS***, aggravated rape, lopped-off limbs, human meat pies, and all. And don't look for lovely Jessica Lange; John Kuntz, in shaved head and a dress, plays Tamora, Queen of the Goths, in the all-male production in the Basement at the Garage, Garage Mall, 38 JFK St, Cambridge | March 29–April 22 | $33-$40; $15 student rush | 866.811.4111 or www.actorsshakespeareproject.org.

FRIDAY 30

NOW PLAYING

New in theaters this week: ***BEYOND THE GATES***, ***BLADES OF GLORY***, ***THE BOYS & GIRLS GUIDE TO GETTING DOWN***, ***EN EL HOYO/IN THE PIT***, ***LIVE FREE OR DIE***, ***MEET THE ROBINSONS***, and ***THE PRISONER, OR HOW I PLANNED TO KILL TONY BLAIR***; our reviews of what we saw are on pages 6-7.

TOUGH LOVE I

The plot (based on actual events) isn't exactly an upper: Swedish monarch Gustavus III is so besotted with Amelia, the wife of his trusted secretary, that he doesn't notice the assassination ring (which may or may not include the trusted secretary) that's closing around him. All this comes to a head, of course, at a masked ball. **BOSTON LYRIC OPERA**'s 30th-anniversary season continues with Verdi's ***IL BALLO IN MASCHERA***, at the Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St, Boston | March 30 @ 7:30 pm; April 1 @ 1 pm; April 4 + 6 @ 7:30 pm; April 8 @ 3 pm; April 10 @ 7:30 pm | $33-$112 [$166 opening night includes post-performance cast party at the Ritz-Carlton] | 617.542.6772 or www.blo.org.

TOUGH LOVE II

Bedding and beheading (another downer plot) are the order of the day in Vivaldi's sole surviving oratorio, ***JUDITHA TRIUMPHANS***, which he wrote in 1716 for the girls of the Pietà, the Venetian orphanage where he was music director, and which retells the Biblical story of Judith and Holofernes. Now, 291 years later, it's getting its Boston premiere from **MARTIN PEARLMAN** and **BOSTON BAROQUE**, in two performances at Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | March 30-31 @ 8 pm [pre-concert talk at 7 pm] | $23-$62 | 617.484.9200 or www.bostonbaroque.org.

LUCKY 13

They could have called themselves "The Scandinavian Sopranos," so we're grateful that Anna Maria Friman, Linn Andrea Fuglseth, and Torunn Østrem Ossum will be performing as **TRIO MEDIÆVAL** when the Boston Early Musical Festival brings them to Harvard Square for "A Mediæval Tour," music from 13th-century France and Italy, at the First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St, Cambridge | 8 pm [pre-concert talk at 6:30 pm] | $25-$64 | 617.661.1812 or www.bemf.org.

DANCING IN THE STREET

LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTRÉAL — now known as **[BJM_DANSE]** — comes to the Institute of Contemporary Art with "Rhythm," which is to say Brazilian choreographer Rodrigo Pederneiras's *Maps* and Canadian choreographer Aszure Barton's *Les chambres des Jacques*, at 100 Northern Ave, Boston | March 30 @ 7:30 pm; March 31 @ 8 pm; April 1 @ 2 pm | $35 | 617.478.3103 or www.ica.org.

MOVING ART

Shake the hand-sized, high-tech version of a Magic Eight Ball — which shows a little video in the place of your fortune and is encased in a friendly crocheted sock — and the image breaks apart, then begins anew. Or turn a super-sized phenakistoscope to bring to life a sequence of stills and lighting effects. Human-powered work meets hi-tech with nostalgic, even arcane results in **"PICTURE SHOW,"** which opens at the Photographic Resource Center, 832 Comm Ave, Boston | March 30–May 6 | 617.975.0600 or www.prcboston.org.

SONG CHOICE

Most self-professed audiophiles who have a weakness for unhealthy relationships with rock stars can relate to the shame felt by the two destined-to-be-together protagonists in **BRENDAN HALPIN**'s witty third novel, *Dear Catastrophe Waitress* (named after a Belle and Sebastian album). Mark's ex-girlfriend Raquel wrote a hit single called "Two Minute Man" about him; punk-rocker Philippa became immortalized in her British boyfriend's one-hit-wonder "Philippa Cheats." Their subsequent screw-ups and lonely journeys toward adulthood send Mark and Philippa to Boston, where their narratives collide. Halpin will make you forget your jaded refusal to believe in fate for about an hour at the Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 6:30 pm | free |

Continued on p 4

Karita Mattila

FUTURE PERFECT

WHO'S WHO?

Still mourning the illness-enforced withdrawal of superstar Finnish soprano **KARITA MATTILA** from the BSO's *Fidelio* last weekend? Take heart: in two weeks she'll be here for her Celebrity Series recital. On the program: Samuel Barber's *Hermit Songs*, selections from Hugo Wolf's *Spanisches Liederbuch*, "La maja y el ruiseñor" from Granados's *Goyescas*, Joaquín Turina's *Poema en forma de canciones*, and works by four of her Finnish compatriots: Toivo Kuula, Erkki Melartin, Oskar Merikanto, and Leevi Madetoja. Drown your *Fidelio* sorrows at Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | April 13 | $45-$55 | 617.482.6661 or www.celebrityseries.org.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer

THE CHOSEN ONE

If you've long grown weary of the campy devirginizations at the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, consider engaging in an evening of beastie ass kicking, awkward slow dancing, and tuneless singing when the Coolidge Corner Theatre presents the ultimate **BUFFY THE VAMPIRE**

Continued on p 4

8 DAYS A WEEK

FUTURE PERFECT

Continued from p 3

SLAYER SENIOR PROM. "Once More with Feeling," the musical episode from *Buffy*'s sixth season, will screen (bring underwear to throw and don't be afraid to tell Dawnie, "Just shut up!"). After the Scooby Gang save Sunnydale from the big bads (again), the stage will clear for the prom dance party the Bronze never saw, including a class-protector trivia competition and a King and Queen contest based solely on popularity. Gowns and tuxes are encouraged — why let the impending Apocalypse keep you from your social life? The Hellmouth reopens at the Coolidge, 290 Harvard St, Brookline | April 14 @ midnight | $12 | 617.566.6660.

Ben Folds

KEITH AND BEN

It's **OPENING NIGHT AT THE POPS** in just over a month, and **KEITH LOCKHART**'s special opening-night guest this season is indie-rock piano man **BEN FOLDS**. Count on full orchestral versions of the hit Ben Folds Five anti-girlfriend single "Brick" and Ben's sweetly sappy solo tune "The Luckiest." And expect to see Ben behind the mic, the keys, and possibly even the drum kit. It's not Pops on the Edge, but it's still pretty damn hip for a Symphony Hall champagne reception | 301 Mass Ave, Boston | May 9 @ 6:30 pm | $60-$1000 | 617.266.1200 or www.bso.org.

Continued from p 3

800.542.READ.

IN THIS ISSUE

PERSEPHONE | Huntington Theatre Company @ BU Theatre, Boston | Liza Weisstuch's preview on page 19.

SATURDAY 31

PAINTING THE TOWN

The **ARTISTS' BALL** is your chance to dress up as Vincent or Pablo or whoever (Ryan Landry and Adrienne Hawkins will be the costume judges), support the work of the Boston Center for the Arts, and just plain have a good time, at the BCA Cyclorama, 539 Tremont Street, Boston | "cabaret cocktail" @ 6:30 pm; dinner @ 7:30 pm; Artists' Ball @ 9 pm | $200 for the evening or $50 for just the Ball | 617.426.ARTS or www.bcaonline.org.

BY THE BEAUTIFUL SEA?

City Hall Plaza will prove good for something when the **BIG APPLE CIRCUS** sets up shop there, introducing Boston to its 29th annual one-ring extravaganza, *Step Right Up!* For this one, the Big Apple's intimate, climate-controlled Big Top will house "a wondrous amusement resort by the sea," conjuring the midway and the boardwalk in the era of *Ragtime*. Bring the kids; Big Apple supplies the sawdust at City Hall Plaza, Boston | March 31–May 6 | $15-$60 | 617.931.ARTS or www.ticketmaster.com.

GRAB THAT DUMPSTER

Former *Onion* scribes Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett are at it again, bringing another 90 minutes' worth of home-video footage to the Coolidge Corner Theatre for the third **FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL**. It's a show-and-tell event, as they try to dig up the back story behind what you see on screen. We read somewhere that this round might include exercise videos from O.J. Simpson and Mark Wahlberg — inquiring minds will want to know at 290 Harvard St, Brookline | midnight | $9.50 | 617.734.2501 or www.coolidge.org.

SUNDAY 1

DOES THE BIG DIG KNOW ABOUT THIS?

THE CONSTRUCTION OF BOSTON started out in 1962 as a performance piece written by Kenneth Koch for Robert Rauschenberg, Jean Tinguely, and Niki de Saint-Phalle. In 1989, local composer Scott Wheeler turned it into a one-act opera, and this afternoon the **BOSTON CECILIA** presents it together with works by Wheeler's teacher Virgil Thomson: *Oraison funèbre*, for soprano solo, and an excerpt from *Four Saints in Three Acts*. That's at Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | 3 pm | $15-$60 | 617.232.4540 or www.bostoncecilia.org.

Garry Winogrand, *Texas State Fair, Dallas, 1964*

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

FRIDAY | *The Nature of Photographs* is stuffed with gorgeous prints, from classic images to contemporary pieces and found negatives, not to mention a smattering of work by **STEPHEN SHORE**, the book's author and a pioneer in the field of color photography. It's also a primer on the key elements that make a photograph work. Shore will discuss the subtext behind his images and sign copies at the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University, 832 Comm Ave, Boston | 7 pm | free | 617.353.0600.

MONDAY 2

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS? I

Those dismayed by the bum rap given the deformed in 300 will find consolation in the 1939 film ***THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME***, William Dieterle's adaptation of the Victor Hugo classic, with a heartbreaking Charles Laughton as the grotesque but pure-hearted Quasi-modo, bell ringer of Notre Dame, whose crush on the Gypsy girl Esmeralda (a radiant 19-year-old Maureen O'Hara) has tragic consequences amid the squalor and political corruption of 15th-century Paris. It's at the Boston Public Library, Copley Square | 6 pm | free | 617.536.5400 x 2317.

TUESDAY 3

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS? II

This evening you can revel in a 1939 French doubleheader at the Harvard Film Archive. No film has come close to Jean Renoir's ***LA RÈGLE DU JEU/RULES OF THE GAME*** (7 pm) in mirroring the social and cultural state of its time with such a balance of comedy and tragedy, realism and myth. A commercial disaster, it was banned by the French for being "demoralizing," and then again by the Nazis. Less prophetic, though perhaps more red-blooded and rousing, is William Wellman's definitive version of ***BEAU GESTE*** (9:15 pm), in which French Legionnaire Gary Cooper prevails over bad manners, treachery, and Arab attacks in the North African desert. The HFA is in the Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St, Cambridge | 617.495.4700.

WEDNESDAY 4

A KISS IS JUST A KISS

More than 200 people were turned away at the door for the first **OPERA BOSTON UNDERGROUND**, so the event is returning to the Lizard Lounge. You'll still get your cabaret-opera fix with the potential to booze in a dim bar. But now there's a new theme: "French Kisses: Songs of French and American Cabaret." We think it best to purchase your tickets immediately, if not sooner. (It's worth the extra three bucks they're charging for round deux.) Opera Boston music director Gil Rose, mezzo-soprano Glorivy Arroyo, tenor Christian Figueroa, and pianist Angela Gooch host | 1667 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 7:30 pm | $8 | 617.451.3388.

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE

Solo performer **MIKE DAISEY** has been compared with Jack Black, Chris Farley, and Noam Chomsky. Now you get a chance to see this mutant for yourself when American Repertory Theatre presents his latest monologue, ***INVINCIBLE SUMMER***, which tells of "the last glorious summer" before the planes hit the World Trade Center while incorporating the history of the New York subway system, a portrait of Daisey's Brooklyn neighborhood, and memories of his parents' disintegrating marriage, all at Zero Arrow Theatre, Mass Ave + Arrow St, Cambridge | April 4-29 | $38-$50; 50 @ $15 at noon, day of performance; $15 student rush | 617.547.8300 or www.amrep.org.

AMERICA VERSION 2.0

Since losing out in the presidential primaries to Al Gore in 2000, former senator and Knicks star **BILL BRADLEY** has had plenty of time to hash over what it would take to make these United States a better place to live. The result: a 300-plus-page re-evaluation of our nation's political and social systems titled *The New American Story*. "Idealism isn't dead," he says. "It can be reawakened." America's story is up for revision at the First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St, Cambridge | 6:30 pm | $5 | 800.542.READ.

THURSDAY 5

INDIE PLUS

When Balagan, the excellent esoteric local film group whose name refers to a Russian road circus, combines with the **BLACK MARIA TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL**, the annual extravaganza of avant-garde shorts whose name refers to Thomas Edison's first movie studio, only good things can happen. The Boston selections from the 26th edition include Leighton Pierce's "My Person in the Water" and the first-person narrative of Jay Rosenblatt's "Afraid So." Local filmmakers John Warren ("Elegy") and Robert Todd ("Interplay") will be on hand at the Museum of Fine Arts' Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | 6 pm | 617. 369.3907.

Film

BORROWED BRIDE This one's emotional hooks and progressive themes come through in any language.

Turkey call

From genius to genre at the Boston Turkish Film Festival

BY PETER KEOUGH

THE SIXTH ANNUAL BOSTON TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | MARCH 29–APRIL 8

Turkey's chances of getting into the European Union may be fading, but its role as a rising star in world cinema looks secure. Not since the late Yilmaz Güney won the Palme d'Or at Cannes in 1982 with *Yol* has a Turkish filmmaker made the kind of impression Nuri Bilge Ceylan did in 1999 with *Clouds in May*. And unlike his predecessor, Ceylan has made subsequent masterpieces that have added to his reputation and opened the way for the recognition of many of his talented colleagues.

Ceylan is represented in this year's Boston Turkish Film Festival by his latest, the critically acclaimed ***CLIMATES*** (2006; April 1 @ 8 pm). Dour, reflexive, brilliant, slow-moving, this update of Roberto Rossellini's *Viaggio in Italia*/*Voyage to Italy* further confirms Ceylan as a major world director. But I suspect the average Turkish filmmgoer doesn't line up to see his movies, not when the rabble-rousing action thriller *Valley of the Wolves: Iraq* packed them in last year. Like the American audiences who file in to see *300* or *Shooter*, the mass market in Turkey probably goes for genre flicks.

And that, for better and worse, is what most of this year's festival offers — a look at what the Turkish cineplexes might be showing and a reflection, perhaps, of what's on the collective mind of Turkish culture. The details and the trappings may differ from standard Middle American fare, but many of the themes remain familiar.

Take a period romantic comedy like the late veteran director Atif Yilmaz's final film, ***BORROWED BRIDE*** (2005; April 8 at 3:40 pm). In provincial Anatolia in the 1920s, in the early days of Turkey's Westernization, 18-year-old Ali wants only to play with his "dolls" — his parents' disdainful term for his puppets — and perform incognito for the traveling theater troupe in town. But his father the mayor has lined him up for a lucrative marriage with the daughter of a local entrepreneur. Mom convinces dad that the best way to get Ali interested in the upcoming union is by hiring a "borrowed bride," a traditional surrogate who will introduce him into the bliss and the responsibilities of marriage.

KILLING THE SHADOWS A comic duo who invent cement.

DESTINY By the end, a lifetime has been wasted, or transformed.

Of course, local beauty Ermine (Nurgül Yesilçay, a Claudia Cardinale look-alike) proves more than they bargained for. Not only does her own fiancé, a violent thug serving time, pose potential complications, but Ermine herself has some modern ideas about a woman's role. Much of *Bride*'s ribald comedy survives translation, and its emotional hooks and progressive themes come through in any language.

Retreating further into history, Ezel Akay's ***KILLING THE SHADOWS*** (2006; April 6 @ 7:30 pm) also mixes broad humor with mild doses of politics and a glance at the political role of art and entertainment. It's the 14th century, and Mongols, Ottomans, and Byzantines are wrangling bloodily over Turkey, but the town of Bursa shines as an example of multiculturalism and feminist empowerment. It's a jolly ethnic and religious stew with an amazon sisterhood of warriors keeping the place secure. Enter Karagöz and Hacivat, based on a mythic comic duo and played by popular Turkish comedians Haluk Bilginer and Beyazit Öztürk, a lumpish nomad and a court jester thrown together by chance whose bickering catches on as a kind of street theater. Not with me, though; jokes about yogurt and turbans and butchering a beloved cow left me scratching my head. What makes them interesting through the film's 138 minutes (they invent cement, among other diversions) is the increasing tension between their satire and the forbearance of the powers that be. Suffice to say Bursa does not remain a beacon of multiculturalism and feminist empowerment.

Taking the show on the road to the present day, popular comic moviemaker Çem Yilmaz's ***THE MAGICIAN*** (2006; March 30 @ 5:45 pm) features another pair of traveling players, Iskender, the prestidigitator of the title, and his best friend and manager, Maradona. As an enigmatic (to me) opening montage relates, the bespectacled pair have been at their business since they were kids, to the dismay of Iskender's equally wacky dad. Now treading water at 40, the two must leave Istanbul on a "tour" after their sawing-a-woman-in-half routine goes awry (Yimaz's expert editing gives even the hoariest gags a breath of life), but circumstances require them to share a trailer with Iskender's feisty father. This *Little Miss Sunshine* scenario gets more complicated when they play a wedding in the sticks and the bride disappears in their magic box. As in many of the films in the festival, the woman gets the upper hand in this pleasantly loopy, often touching road movie, but the magic between the two nerdy pals and the loose-cannon patriarch provide the charm.

Ever wonder whether snuff movies like *Saw* are made in other countries? The opening minutes of Mustafa Altioklar's ***SHATTERED SOUL*** (2006; April 5 @ 8 pm) seem drawn from the latest such splatterfest — umbrous, greasy images of bodies in vats and hung from hooks and hands in bloody rubber gloves holding big knives, the upshot being a severed leg found in a fisherman's net in the Bosporus. Istanbul police inspector Fatih tackles the case along with forensic psychiatrist Doruk, but the leads are slim.

Doruk's wife, Beyza, meanwhile, is prone to fainting spells and rapid-fire flashbacks of a traumatic nature, and she appears to have assumed different personalities, each possibly reflecting a different demographic of contemporary Turkish society: hedonistic good-time girl, fragile innocent, uptight religious fanatic, and her own neurotic, ineffectual self. Social/political subtext aside, the suspense and the thrills wane quickly: to judge from the film's studied dimness, jarring flashbacks, and blackout cuts, Altioklar may have watched David Fincher's *Seven* a few times too many. By the time Fatih says, "Sometimes the answer is right under your nose," it has been so for about 45 minutes for those in the audience still awake.

After watching a half-dozen or so of these generic offerings, I'd venture to say that Turkish mainstream features are not much worse than their American counterparts, and not much better. After the ludicrous psychobabble of *Shattered Soul*, it's a relief to turn to the work of an auteur with a genuine spiritual sensitivity. Zeki Demirkubuz, whose *Fate* and *The Confession*, reworkings of Dostoevsky and Camus, mark him as one of the world's few convincing existential filmmakers (he'll be receiving the festival's award for excellence), draws on original material in ***DESTINY*** (2006; April 1 @ 3:45 pm), a hypnotic chronicle of self-destructive but perhaps ultimately redemptive obsession.

Dozing in his father's Istanbul carpet store, Bekir stirs to life when bare-midriffed Uğur pops in. She's playful, she's trampy; by the time she's scooted out, bewildered by his laconic responses to her flirting, he's in love. Unfortunately, not only do Bekir's parents have a respectable girl lined up for him to marry, but Uğur herself is obsessed with Zagor, a Scorsese-ish street punk.

Zagor goes to jail; Uğur turns tricks; Bekir abandons wife and child to pursue her; years pass, as indicated by Bekir's changing facial hair. By the end, a lifetime has been wasted, or transformed: the powerful final scene can be interpreted many ways. Genre films might gratify the popular imagination, but works of genius elevate the soul.

Film

THE PRISONER OR: HOW I PLANNED TO KILL TONY BLAIR
Not simply injustice but massive stupidity.

Will Ferrell and Jon Heder

⊕⊕ BLADES OF GLORY

90 MINUTES | BOSTON COMMON + FENWAY + FRESH POND + CIRCLE + SUBURBS

Will Ferrell plays a redneck star athlete who's dumb and adored and loses his trousers a lot and meets his match in an effete competitor. It worked in *Talladega Nights*, but it doesn't work here. Jon Heder, who plays prima donna superstar skater Jimmy McElroy, is no Sacha Baron Cohen, or even a Sasha Cohen (who appears as herself). And if you're going to make a movie about the first male/male pair-figure-skating team, you have to make at least a few jokes about the gay thing, if not include it as a subtext, as *Talladega Nights* did with red-state politics and attitudes. First-time feature directors Josh Gordon and Will Speck pass on such sophisticated maneuvers, however, and rather than let the conflict between Farrell's macho Chazz and Heder's epicene Jimmy play out, they end it for no reason and with no resolution and resort instead to buddy-movie conventions. No guts, no glory, and not much in the way of comedy, either.

_Peter Keough

TRAILERS

⊕⊕ BEYOND THE GATES

115 MINUTES | KENDALL SQUARE

As the end credits roll on Michael Caton-Jones's film, the latest to deal with the Rwandan genocide, it's hard not to tear up. We're shown image after image of the production's crew members accompanied by text detailing terrible personal losses, and the empathetic realization dawns that these are actual survivors of April 1994's horrific slaughter. If only the film itself had presented their plight in more than two dimensions. Instead, its subject is White Man's Guilt, as represented by Joe Connor (Hugh Dancy), a naive young idealist teaching at the École Technique Officielle, a secondary school in the Rwandan capital of Kigali. Filming at the actual location is undercut by the use of fictional characters; even so, John Hurt brings moral verisimilitude as Father Christopher, the school's headmaster. Although more dignified than Caton-Jones's *Basic Instinct 2* (what wouldn't be?), *Beyond the Gates* is nearly as languid.

_Brett Michel

⊕ THE BOYS & GIRLS GUIDE TO GETTING DOWN

88 MINUTES | FRESH POND

Sex, drugs, and stupidity become the stuff of sociological study in this simple-minded parody of the LA party scene. In his feature debut, Paul Sapiano offsets a crude visual style and flashy performances with a strait-laced voiceover about dating rituals in an attempt at satire. But he has no sense of comic timing, and his actors are just as clueless, so the jokes fizzle. And cinematographer Roman Jakobi's manic visual rhythms don't help, with his camera moving klutzily about the frame. The whole movie is one running gag — it's like watching a stand-up comedian perform the same stereotyped impersonation over and over.

_Paul Babin

⊖ THE HILLS HAVE EYES II

89 MINUTES | BOSTON COMMON + FENWAY + FRESH POND + CHESTNUT HILL + SUBURBS

This quickie sequel to last year's remake of *The Hills Have Eyes* promises that "the lucky ones die fast." Not fast enough. Martin Weisz's follow-up is an unnecessary 89-minute slog. As annoying as last year's addition to the "torture porn" genre was, the amateurish tedium of Weisz's installment actually made me appreciate Alexandre Aja's wasted efforts. Sure, Aja's film was a reprehensible pile of masochistic shit, but it was handsomely made shit: well paced, with a good cast of actors (Ted Levine, Aaron Stanford). This one only bores — and it carries the fecal metaphor still farther. On the eve of being dispatched to Iraq, a group of remarkably good-looking, incredibly stupid National Guard trainees (unknowns all) become the latest to face slaughter (and rape) at the hands (and tumorous loins) of inbred mutants in the New Mexico desert. Sitting in my seat as a feces-strewn victim was left to rot inside a port-o-potty, I could only empathize.

_Brett Michel

⊕⊕ LIVE FREE OR DIE

89 MINUTES | HARVARD SQUARE

Seinfeld writers Gregg Kavet and Andy Robin conceived this project as a TV series, which is where it should have stayed. The backwoods setting and the bungling pair of Class A screw-ups call to mind Wes Anderson's *Bottle Rocket* by way of the Anne Heche TV series *Men in Trees*. The boonies here are a working-class podunk in New Hampshire (hence the title), where going-nowhere slacker John "Rugged" Rudgate (Aaron Stanford, Pyro in the *X-Men* series) reinvents himself as a bad-ass hood. No one buys his delusional shtick except for Jeff Lagrand (Paul Schneider), an oafish fem fop who spent time in special ed — basically Kramer on valium. The George-and-Lenny tandem concoct a battery of petty get-rich schemes, all of which backfire. Along the way a few folks die "comical deaths." None of it's funny, and that includes Rudgate's *My Name Is Earl* chest beating. Kevin Dunn hits the mark as the police chief; Zooey Deschanel wastes her time as Lagrand's sister.

_Tom Meek

⊕⊕⊖ THE LOOKOUT

102 MINUTES | BOSTON COMMON + FENWAY + FRESH POND + CIRCLE + SUBURBS

Chris Pratt (Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Brendan in *Brick*) has it made: he's a stud, he has a rich father, and he can score a goal from anywhere on the ice. Or he could until an act of hubris (dumb-ass car accident) left him scared and with a few mental tics — they call it "sequencing issues," but all the notebook flipping and starting over again feels ripped out of *Memento*. Languishing in remorse, Chris rooms with blind guy Lewis (Jeff Daniels), who's in the same learning-to-live-on-your-own program, and toils at mcjobs until he meets shady operator Gary (Matthew Goode) and a swank piece of ass named Luvlee (*Wedding Crashers*' Isla Fisher). Gary coaxes Chris into assisting in a bank heist. From there matters become predictable and clumsy, and Chris isn't all that sympathetic. Still, Goode's bad guy beguiles, and first-time director Scott Frank, who penned *Out of Sight* and *Minority Report*, shapes some sharp noirish notes.

_Tom Meek

⊕⊕⊖ MEET THE ROBINSONS

102 MINUTES | BOSTON COMMON + FENWAY + FRESH POND + CHESTNUT HILL + WEST NEWTON + SUBURBS

A few decades from now, Canada will be Northern Montana, people will float through cities in soap bubbles, and frogs will sing Sinatra. Or so this brisk animated Disney pic has it. It's *The Jetsons* with a family-friendly dose of *Terminator* time bending thrown in. In the now, young orphan Lewis (voiced by Daniel Hansen and Jordan Fry) fails at his science-fair project but is implored to keep at it by Wilbur (Wesley Singerman), a boy claiming to be from the future. It seems the fate of tomorrow hangs on Lewis, and to convince him of that, Wilbur whisks him across the years to meet the screwball family of title. A dimwitted Snidely Whiplash clone (Stephen J. Anderson, who also directs) with a pet t-rex stand in the way of the boys' ironing out history. But flashes of wit and whimsy notwithstanding, the future is just as sentimentalized as the past.

_Tom Meek

⊕⊕⊕ THE PRISONER OR: HOW I PLANNED TO KILL TONY BLAIR

72 MINUTES | ARABIC + ENGLISH | KENDALL SQUARE

Up to now the War in Iraq has differed from Vietnam in one respect: no black comedy. This documentary from Petra Epperlein and Michael Tucker might change that. Shortly after the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003, US soldiers raided the Baghdad home of Iraqi journalist Yunis Abbas and took him and his three brothers prisoner. After a series of demeaning interrogations over several days, he finally learned what they were being charged with: plotting to blow up Tony Blair. He remembers laughing when he heard this. No matter, he and two of his brothers remained at Abu Ghraib in Andersonville-like conditions for nine months before being released with an apology. The directors underscore the insanity of the situation by depicting some of his experiences as a graphic novel. As for Abbas's dignity and innocence, they speak for themselves.

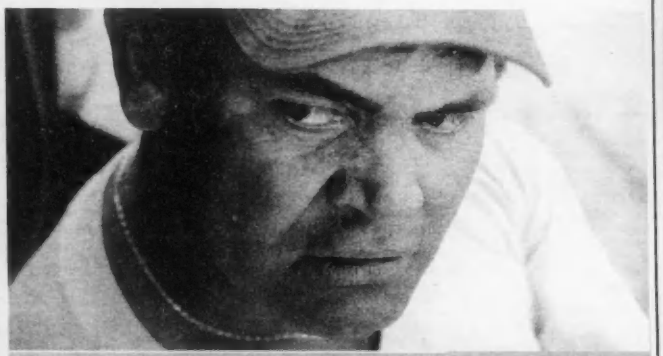
_Peter Keough

Film

Pit bulls

And the Brattle's WW2 flicks

BY GERALD PEARY



EN EL HOYO José doesn't wear well, but the film does.

They're called "festival films," movies that resonate with the serious, eager-minded who attend fests but have little chance in the Darwinian world of theatrical release. And yet, once in a blue luna, an appealing little work squeezes through. *En el hoyo*/*In the Pit*, which opens this Friday at the Kendall Square, is Juan Carlos Rulfo's plotless documentary sketch of a band of hard-hat workers who're constructing a patch of a monumental freeway encircling Mexico City. Instead of an Egyptian pyramid, they're building the architecturally famous Second Deck, miles and miles and miles and miles of elevated road, a somewhere to deposit Mexico City's gnarl of three million vehicles.

The guys could be at any construction site in the world, except perhaps for their lousy, non-union pay, about $5 a day for climbing frighteningly high in the air and tunneling dangerously low. Rulfo jumps from worker to worker, providing mini-portraits, as they converse with the camera while they toil. Two stand out a bit. There's the good-natured, non-ambitious Chabelo, who remains unruffled as his peers keep pressing him to take a bath. There's José, a dimpled, turn-on-the-charm ladies' man who, he admits, has seen better times, when he had rolls of money and ample coke and was employed by the mob. The more time spent with José, the less appealing his veneer. In fact, he loses it all when he blurts out the effects of his temper: a girlfriend who couldn't open her left eye after he put his fist in it.

FILM CULTURE

But most of the compañeros are harmless guys with regular dreams of a better life, like the crew foreman, Vicencio, who wants to retire to a farm and his horses. The most touching story is the simplest. Salvador has accumulated a bit of money, and he manages to buy a modest, tiny house. For the benefit of the camera crew, he gives a tour: the kitchen, the living room, the two bedrooms, one for his daughter, and even a guest room, if someone should sleep over. He can hardly believe all this is his; it's as if he were showing off Versailles.

The Brattle Theatre is brave in offering a "Perspectives on World War II series" April 5-11. Who's sure to attend apart from veterans of the Battle of the Bulge? But look closely at the superb schedule. You can see 2006's best American movies, *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Letters from Iwo Jima*, together on the big screen April 6 and 7. Other movies are grandly entertaining for any audience, starting April 5 with Billy Wilder's rarely exhibited black comedy *A Foreign Affair* (1948).

For this one, Austrian-Jewish émigré Wilder returned to Berlin, where he'd lived and worked, to get his cinematic revenge against the defeated Germans. He's there with his camera showing the symphony of a city of rubble, where the populace is suffering and the black market reigns. We get a gallows-humor tour: "That's the balcony where Hitler promised the Third Reich would last a thousand years. He broke the heart of the bookies." And he brings back to Berlin Marlene Dietrich, who'd fled the city and supported the Allies in the War, to play a Leni Riefenstahl show-biz type in denial of being bedded by, and embedded with, the Nazis.

Two more recommendations. On April 8, Robert Aldrich's wildly popular and anarchic *The Dirty Dozen* (1967), with the great Lee Marvin leading his smelly, motley band of killers (John Cassavetes, footballer Jim Brown, crooner Trini López) against the Nazi high command. And on April 10, *All Through the Night* (1942) finds gambler Humphrey Bogart fighting the German underground on New York's Upper East Side in a snappy, half-comic Warner Brothers genre flick. ◉

MFA FILM Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Visit www.mfa.org/film for schedule and tickets

Destiny

Sun, Apr 1, 3:45 pm

Obsession and love swirl through Istanbul's underbelly. Part of the **Sixth Boston Turkish Film Festival**, March 29-April 8.

ALSO SCREENING:

Black Maria Film Festival
April 5

Architecture on Film
Building the Gherkin
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No purchase necessary. Entries must be received by Thursday, March 29th, 2007. No phone calls, please.

OPENS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH

Film

Unless otherwise noted, all film listings this week are for Friday March 30 through Thursday April 5. (But check for April 4 openings.) Times can and do change without notice, and this week information was slow to come in, so do call the theater before heading out. For up-to-date film-schedule information, check the Boston Phoenix Web site at www.bostonphoenix.com.

BOSTON

BOSTON COMMON
175 Tremont St | 617.423.3499
BLADES OF GLORY | 1, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:15, 7:15, 8:45, 9:45 | Fri-Sun: 10:30 am, 11:45 am | Fri-Sat: 11:15, 12:05 am | Sun: 11
THE LOOKOUT | 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55 | Fri-Sun: 11:40 am | Fri-Sat: 12:10 am
MEET THE ROBINSONS | 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20 | Fri-Sun: 10 am, 11:15 am, 12:30, 3:10, 5:45, 8:20, 11, 11:55 | Mon-Thurs: 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20
DEAD SILENCE | 1:35, 4:05 | Fri-Sun: 11:05 am
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II | 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40 | Fri-Sun: 10:55 am | Fri-Sat: midnight
I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE | 8
THE LAST MIMZY | 1:50, 4:25, 7:05, 9:35 | Fri-Sun: 11:25 am
MUSIC AND LYRICS | Fri-Sun: 11:30 am | Mon-Thurs: 5:30
THE NAMESAKE | 1:30, 4:40, 7:45 | Fri-Sun: 10:25 am, 10:45 | Mon-Thurs: 10:30
PEACEFUL WARRIOR | 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:35 | Fri-Sun: 10:15 am
PREMONITION | Fri-Sun: 2:25, 5, 7:50, 10:25 | Mon-Thurs: 1:45, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45
PRIDE | Fri-Sun: 10:55 | Mon-Thurs: 10:20
REIGN OVER ME | 1:40, 2:30, 4:35, 7:40, 9 | Fri-Sun: 10:45 am, 10:40 | Fri-Sat: 11:50 | Mon-Thurs: 10:30
SHOOTER | 1:10, 2:20, 4:10, 5:25, 7:20, 8:30, 10:20 | Fri-Sun: 10:10 am, 11:20 am | Fri-Sat: 11:30
300 | 2:05, 4, 5:15, 7, 8:15, 10 | Fri-Sun: 10:05 am, 12:50| Fri-Sat: 11:15 | Sun: 11 | Mon-Thurs: 1:15
TMNT | 5:35, 8:05 | Fri-Sun: 10:20 am, 12:40, 3:05 , 10:30 | Mon-Thurs: 1, 3:10, 10:20
WILD HOGS | Fri-Sun: 11:50 am, 2:40, 5, 10:50 | Fri, Sun: 7:55 | Mon-Thurs: 2, 4:40, 7:25, 10
ZODIAC | 5:30 | Fri-Sun: 10:40 am
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat: 7:30

FENWAY
201 Brookline Ave | 617.424.6266
BLADES OF GLORY | 1, 4:10, 4:45, 7:25, 8, 10 | Fri-Sun: 11:40 am, 2:10 | Fri-Sat: 12:20 am, 10:40 | Sun: 10:25-Thurs | Mon-Thurs: 1:30
THE LOOKOUT | 1:05, 4:20, 7:55, 10:35
MEET THE ROBINSONS | 7, 9:30 | Fri-Sun: 11:30 am, 2, 4:30 | Mon-Thurs: 12:30, 4
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II | 1:10, 4:35, 7:45, 10:05 | Fri-Sat: 12:30 am
THE LAST MIMZY | 4:40, 7:35, 10 | Fri-Sun: 11:35 am, 2:05 | Mon-Thurs: 1:15
PREMONITION | 12:55, 4:05, 7:50, 10:30
PRIDE | 4:55, 7:30, 9:55 | Fri-Sun: 11:45 am, 2:20 | Fri-Sat: 12:25 am | Mon-Thurs: 1:20
REIGN OVER ME | 12:35, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10
SHOOTER | 12:40, 3:50, 7:15, 10:25
300 | 12:45, 12:50, 3:55, 7:05, 7:20, 10:20
TMNT | 4:50, 7:40, 10:15 | Fri-Sun: 11:50 am, 2:15 | Fri-Sat: 12:30 am | Mon-Thurs: 1:25
ZODIAC | 3:30, 9:50

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Omni Theatre, Science Park, Boston | 617.723.2500 | $7.50, $5.50 for ages 3-11 and seniors; Tues-Wed 7 pm or later, $5, $3 for ages 3-11 and seniors
Please call for times
DEEP SEA
LIONS: ROAR OF THE KALAHARI
SHARKS
WHALES

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theatre, Central Wharf, Boston | 860.815.IMAX | $12, $10 for ages 3-11 and seniors
Please call for times
DEEP SEA
LIONS: ROAR OF THE KALAHARI
SHARKS
WHALES

BROOKLINE

CHESTNUT HILL
Rte 9 and Hammond St | 617.277.2500
MEET THE ROBINSONS | Fri-Sat: 10:20 | Fri: 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45 | Sat: 10 am, 12:30, 3, 5:45, 8:15 | Sun: noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30 | Mon-Thurs: 2, 4:30, 7
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA | Fri-Sat: 5, 9:45 | Fri: noon, 2:30, 7:30 | Sat: 11:30 am, 2:15, 7:20 | Sun: 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45 | Mon-Thurs: 2:20, 4:50, 7:15
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II | 5:30 | Fri-Sun: 12:45, 8 | Fri-Sat: 10:30 am | Fri, Sun: 3:10 | Sat: 3:15 | Mon-Thurs: 3, 7:40
REIGN OVER ME | Fri-Sun: 1, 4, 7 | Fri-Sat: 10 | Sat: 10:10 am | Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 5, 7:50
300 | Fri-Sun: 1:15, 4:15 | Fri-Sat: 7:10, 10:10 | Sat: 10:20 am | Sun: 7:15 | Mon-Thurs: 2:30, 5:15, 8

CIRCLE
Cleveland Circle | 617.566.4040
Please call for times
BLADES OF GLORY
THE LOOKOUT
BREACH
THE LAST MIMZY
MUSIC AND LYRICS
SHOOTER
TMNT
ZODIAC
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St | 617.734.2500
BAMAKO | 4:45, 7:30, 9:45 | Sat-Thurs: 2:15
DAS LEBEN DER ANDEREN|THE LIVES OF OTHERS | 1:30 [no Fri], 4:15, 7:15 [no Tues], 10
THE NAMESAKE | 1:15, 4, 7, 9:45
"2006 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATED SHORT DOCUMENTARIES" | 1:30 [no Sun, Thurs], 4:15, 7, 9:30
EL LABERINTO DEL FAUNO|PAN'S LABYRINTH | Fri: 1
HELLRAISER with the **D-BAGS** | Fri: midnight
"FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL" | Sat: 12:30 am
THE KING OF COMEDY | Tues: 7

CAMBRIDGE

BRATTLE
40 Brattle St, Harvard Square | 617.876.6837
THE MUPPET MOVIE | Fri: 7
MUPPETS MUSICAL MOMENTS | Fri: 9 | Sat: 11:45 am
RADICAL JESTERS | Sat: midnight
ADVENTURES OF ELMO IN GROUCHLAND | Sat: 10:15 | Mon: 1:30
THE GREAT MUPPET CAPER | Sat: 1:30
A BETTER WORLD: LIVING IN HARMONY | Sat: 3:30
THE MUPPETS TAKE MANHATTAN | Sat: 5:30
COMMERCIALS 6 EXPERIMENTS | Sat: 7:30
LABYRINTH | Sat: 9:45 | Mon: 9:30
MUPPETS FROM SPACE | Sat: 1:30 | Mon: 3:30
HURRICANE ON THE BAYOU
Sun: 5:15

THE ART OF PUPPETRY & STORYTELLING | Sun: 7
THE DARK CRYSTAL | Sun: 9:30 | Mon: 5:30
MUPPET HISTORY 101 | Mon: 7:15
MIRRORMASK | Tues: 5, 7:15, 9:30
"BOSTON FILMRACE 2007" | Wed: midnight
THE GOOD GERMAN | Thurs: 7
A FOREIGN AFFAIR | Thurs: 4:30, 9:15

FRESH POND
168 Alewife Brook Parkway | 617.661.3900
THE BOYS & GIRLS GUIDE TO GETTING DOWN | 12:45, 3:10, 5:25, 7:30, 9:40
BLADES OF GLORY | 12:45, 2:50, 5, 7:10, 9:30
THE LOOKOUT | 12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05
MEET THE ROBINSONS | 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II | 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:25, 9:45
THE LAST MIMZY | 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40
PREMONITION | 12:45, 2:55, 5:30, 7:45, 10:05
SHOOTER | 1, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55
TMNT | 12:30, 2:50, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25
WILD HOGS | 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40

HARVARD SQUARE
10 Church St | 617.864.4580
LIVE FREE OR DIE | 2:30 | Fri-Sat: 4:45, 7, 9:45 | Sat: 11:55 am | Sun-Thurs: 4:15, 7:30, 9:40
THE NAMESAKE | 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 | Fri, Sun-Thurs: 7 | Fri-Sat: 11 | Sat: 11:15 am, 10 | Sun-Thurs: 9:45
REIGN OVER ME | Fri, Sun-Thurs: 4:15, 7:15 | Fri: 1:30, 10:10 | Sat: 11:45 am, 2:30, 5:30, 8:30 | Sun-Thurs: 1:15, 9:50
300 | 1:45, 4:30 | Fri-Sat: 7:30, 10:30 | Sat: 11:20 am | Sun-Thurs: 7:10, 9:45
OFFICE SPACE | Fri: 10
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW | Sat: midnight
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat: 7:30

KENDALL SQUARE
1 Kendall Square | 617.499.1996
BEYOND THE GATES | 1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 9:45 | Sat-Sun: 11 am
EN EL HOYO|IN THE PIT | 1:20, 4:10, 7:45, 9:55 | Sat-Sun: 11:10 am
PEACEFUL WARRIOR | 1:45, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45 | Sat-Sun: 11:05 am
PRISONER: OR HOW I TRIED TO KILL TONY BLAIR | 2, 4:50, 7:40, 9:20 | Sat-Sun: 11:30 am
AMAZING GRACE | 1:25, 7:20 [no Thurs]
THE HOST | 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45 | Sat-Sun: 11:05 am
DIE GROßE STILLE|INTO GREAT SILENCE | 1, 4:25, 8
DAS LEBEN DER ANDEREN|THE LIVES OF OTHERS | Fri-Sun: 12:45, 3:45, 6:35, 9:40 | Mon-Thurs: 1:05, 5, 8:10
MAFIOSO | 4:10, 9:55 [no Thurs] | Sat-Sun: 11:10 am
THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY | 1:10, 4, 6:50, 9:40

SUBURBS

ARLINGTON
Capitol, 204 Mass Ave | 781.648.4340
CHARLOTTE'S WEB | 3 | Sat-Sun: 11:05 am
CHILDREN OF MEN | Fri-Sun: 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:10 | Sat-Sun: 11 am | Mon-Thurs: 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 8:55
HAPPY FEET | Fri-Sun: 1:05 | Sat-Sun: 10:50 am | Mon-Thurs: 3:20
THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND | Fri-Sun: 1:30, 4, 7:20, 9:50 | Sat-Sun: 11:10 am | Mon-Thurs: 1:15, 3:55, 6:40, 9
MUSIC AND LYRICS | Fri-Sun: 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:40, 9:45 | Sat-Sun: 11:15 am | Mon-Thurs: 12:55, 2:55, 4:50, 7, 9:10
STARTER FOR TEN | Fri-Sat: 8:30
8:45 | Sat: 4:15 | Sun-Thurs: 2:30
Sun: 5:15

NOTES ON A SCANDAL | 5 | Fri-Sun: 1, 7:30, 9:40 | Mon-Thurs: 1:10, 6:55, 8:50
EL LABERINTO DEL FAUNO|PAN'S LABYRINTH | Fri-Sun: 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 | Mon-Thurs: 1, 6:30, 8:45
VOLVER | Fri-Sun: 7:10, 9:55 | Mon-Thurs: 3:25, 6:45, 9:05

BEVERLY
Cabot St Cinema, 286 Cabot St | 978.927.3677
LITTLE CHILDREN | Fri-Sat: Mon-Tues: 5:15, 8 | Wed: 2
THE QUEEN | Wed-Thurs: 5:30, 8 | Wed: 2

BRAINTREE
AMC X, South Shore Plaza | 781.848.1070
Please call for times
BLADES OF GLORY
MEET THE ROBINSONS
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II
THE LAST MIMZY
PREMONITION
REIGN OVER ME
SHOOTER
300
TMNT
WILD HOGS

BURLINGTON
AMC X, Middlesex Turnpike, off Rte. 128 Exit 32B | 781.229.9200
BLADES OF GLORY
MEET THE ROBINSONS
BREACH
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II
THE LAST MIMZY
PREMONITION
REIGN OVER ME
SHOOTER
300
TMNT
WILD HOGS
ZODIAC

DEDHAM
Showcase 10, 930 Providence St | 781.326.4955
Please call for times
BLADES OF GLORY
MEET THE ROBINSONS
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II
THE LAST MIMZY
PRIDE
PREMONITION
REIGN OVER ME
SHOOTER
300
TMNT
WILD HOGS
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat

HINGHAM
Loring Hall Cinema, 65 Main St | 781.749.1460
THE NAMESAKE | 4:20, 7 | Fri-Sat: 9:30 | Sat-Sun: 1:45

LEXINGTON
Flick, 1794 Mass Ave | 781.861.6161
THE NAMESAKE | 7, 9:30 | Sat-Sun: 1:30, 4:15
DAS LEBEN DER ANDEREN|THE LIVES OF OTHERS | 6:45, 9:30 | Sat-Sun: 1:15, 4

MAYNARD
Fine Arts Theatre, 19-21 Summer St | 978.897.8100
BLADES OF GLORY | 7:15 | Fri-Sat: 9:20 | Sat-Sun: 1:15, 4:15
MEET THE ROBINSONS | 7 | Fri-Sat: 9:15 | Sat-Sun: 1:40, 4:30
SHOOTER | 7 | Fri-Sat: 9:20 | Sat-Sun: 1, 4

NEWBURYPORT
Screening Room, 82 State St | 978.462.4416
STARTER FOR TEN | Fri-Sat: 8:30
8:45 | Sat: 4:15 | Sun-Thurs: 2:30
Sun: 5:15

NEWTON
West Newton Cinema, 2296 Washington St | 617.964.6060
MEET THE ROBINSONS | 1:45, 4, 6:10, 8:15 | Sat-Sun: 11:20 am
AMAZING GRACE | 3:40, 6:20
CHILDREN OF MEN | 1:15 [no Fri], 8:50
THE DEPARTED | 8:45
DREAMGIRLS | 3:10
HAPPY FEET | Sun: 10:30 am
ISLANDER | 1:25, 6:25
NOTES ON A SCANDAL | 8:50
VA, VIS ET DEVIENS|LIVE AND BECOME | Sun: 10:30 am
THE PAINTED VEIL | 3:40
PEACEFUL WARRIOR | 1:05, 3:45, 6:15, 8:45 | Sat: 10:35 am
THE QUEEN | 12:50, 6:30
REIGN OVER ME | 1:10, 3:45, 6:20, 8:50 | Sat-Sun: 10:35 am

RANDOLPH
Showcase Cinema, Rte 139 | 781.963.5600
Please call for times
BLADES OF GLORY
THE LOOKOUT
MEET THE ROBINSONS
DEAD SILENCE
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II
I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE
THE LAST MIMZY
PREMONITION
PRIDE
REIGN OVER ME
SHOOTER
300
TMNT
WILD HOGS
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat

REVERE
Showcase Cinema, Rte 1 and Squire Rd | 781.286.1660
Please call for times
BLADES OF GLORY
THE LOOKOUT
MEET THE ROBINSONS
PEACEFUL WARRIOR
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA
DEAD SILENCE
THE HILLS HAVE EYES II
THE LAST MIMZY
NORBIT
PREMONITION
PRIDE
REIGN OVER ME
SHOOTER
300
TMNT
WILD HOGS
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat

SOMERVILLE THEATRE
55 Davis Square | 617.625.5700
BREACH | 5:15, 7:30, 9:40 | Sat-Sun: 2:40
THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND | 5:30, 8, 10:20 | Sat-Sun: 2:45
EL LABERINTO DEL FAUNO|PAN'S LABYRINTH | 5:20, 7:45, 10 | Sat-Sun: 2:20
300 | 5, 7:40, 10:10 | Sat-Sun: 2:30
VOLVER | Sat, Mon-Thurs: 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 | Sat: 2:15

WALTHAM
Embassy Cinema, 16 Pine St | 781.893.2500
DAS LEBEN DER ANDEREN|THE LIVES OF OTHERS | Fri-Sun: 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:35 | Mon-Thurs: 2, 4:50, 7:40
INTO GREAT SILENCE | Fri-Sun: 1:15, 4:40, 8:10 | Mon-Thurs: 3:10, 7
MAFIOSO | Fri-Sun: 9:40 | Mon-Thurs: 5:10
THE NAMESAKE | Fri-Sun: 12:55, 2, 3:50, 5, 6:30, 8, 9:30 | Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 3, 4:40, 5:40, 7:30, 8:20
300 | Fri-Sun 1:25, 4:10, 7, 9:45 | Mon-Thurs: 2:30, 5, 8
THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY | Fri-Sun: 1:05, 4, 6:50 | Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 7:50

WEYMOUTH
Cameo Theatre, Columbia Square, South Weymouth | 781.335.2777

PEACEFUL WARRIOR | 4:30, 7 | Sat-Sun: 1:45
TMNT | 5:30, 7:30 | Sat-Sun: 1:30, 3:30

WOBURN
Showcase, Main St, Middlesex Canal Park | 781.933.5330
Please call for times
BLADES OF GLORY
THE LOOKOUT
MEET THE ROBINSONS
THE HILLS HAVE EYES 2
THE LAST MIMZY
PREMONITION
REIGN OVER ME
SHOOTER
300
TMNT
WILD HOGS
ZODIAC
THE HOAX | sneak preview Sat

FILM SPECIALS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston | 617.536.5400 | Free admission
THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME | Mon: 6
CYRANO DE BERGERAC | Tues: 6

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St, Cambridge | 617.495.4700 | $7; $5 seniors and students, free for ages 8 and under
L'ACADIE, L'ACADIE|ACADIA ACADIA?! | Fri: 7 | Sat: 9:15
ENTRE LE MER ET L'EAU DOUCE|BETWEEN SWEET AND SALT WATER | Fri: 9:15
KAMOURASKA | Sat: 7
LES ORDRES | Sun: 6, 8:30
YEAR OF THE DOG | Mon: 7
LA RÈGLE DU JEU|THE RULES OF THE GAME | Tues: 7
BEAU GESTE | Tues: 9:15
"AN EVENING WITH REBECCA BARON" | Wed: 7

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.369.3300 | $9; $8 for students and seniors unless otherwise noted
THE MAGICIAN | Fri: 5:45
MAGIC CARPET RIDE | Fri: 8
THE PLAY with **CRASH** | Sat: 11 am
BUILDING THE GHERKIN | Sun: 10:30 am | Sun: 6:15 | Wed: 6:15
DESTINY | Sun: 3:45
CLIMATES | Sun: 8
BACON'S ARENA | Wed: 8
THE HERMITAGE DWELLERS | Thurs: 2
THE SOCIALIST, THE ARCHITECT AND THE TWISTED TOWER | Thurs: 3:30
VISIONS FROM THE INFERNO | Thurs: 4:45
"SÉLECTIONS FROM THE 26TH BLACK MARIA FILM FESTIVAL" | Thurs: 6
SHATTERED SOUL | Thurs: 7:45

NORTH END BRANCH LIBRARY
25 Parmenter St, Boston | 617.227.8135 | Free admission
MY FAIR LADY | Tues: 10:30 am
HIS GIRL FRIDAY | Wed: 6

SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH LIBRARY
646 East Broadway, South Boston | 617.268.0180 | Free admission
THE COURT-MARTIAL OF BILLY MITCHELL | Thurs: 6

WEST ROXBURY BRANCH LIBRARY
1961 Centre St, West Roxbury | 617.325.3147 | Free admission
LITTLE WOMEN [1933] | Thurs: 1

Film

CAPSULE REVIEWS

OUR RATING

Superb	⊕⊕⊕⊕
Good	⊕⊕⊕
Middling	⊕⊕
Bearable	⊕
A turkey	⊖

A

L'ACADIE, L'ACADIE|ACADIA, ACADIA?!? | 1971 | This documentary from Pierre Perrault and Michel Brault examines the late-'60s rise of Acadian nationalism at the Université de Moncton. | French | b&w | 75m | HFA: Fri-Sat

⊕⊕⊕ **THE ADVENTURES OF ELMO IN GROUCHLAND | 1999** | Elmo, that pilly red urchin with the insatiable tickle fetish, is in Grouchland because his beloved blue blanket has flown off into that fetid, garbage-strewn netherworld. Obstacles abound in the form of greedy villain Mandy Patinkin, but Elmo (voiced by Kevin Clash), joined by fellow Sesame Street denizens Big Bird, Oscar, and the requisite tuneful, high-serotonin grown-ups, learns much about perseverance, bravery, and sharing. Gary Halvorson's interactive film strikes a pleasing balance of self-reflexive irreverence (there are passing jabs at Starbucks, *Doctor Zhivago*, and Sharon Stone) and inspired whimsy that's shown to best advantage in the lesson-laced musical numbers. Elmo and his trusty blanket, it seems, have everything covered. | 73m | Brattle: Sat

⊕⊕⊖ **AMAZING GRACE | 2006** | Michael Apted's stirring if conventional bio-pic of 18th-century British abolitionist William Wilberforce offers rum, funneled into anti-slavery PM William Pitt the Younger (Benedict Cumberbatch), and sugar, in the form of the hero's adoring wife, Barbara (Romola Garai). This is polite England, so Middle Passage horrors remain veiled: slave turned memoirist Olaudagh Equiano a/k/a "Gustavus" (Youssou N'Dour) is silenced until the end credits. As Wilberforce, Ioan Griffudd (*The Fantastic Four*) conveys the charisma of a righteous hero. Just how he outmaneuvers his enemies becomes a cynical surprise, especially in a bio-pic financed by fundamentalist tycoon Philip Anschutz of Walden Media. Don't go seeking answers here as to where God is when humanity countenances atrocity; that's for another film to deal with. Better ones, like *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*. For now, there's Wilberforce exacting moral justice without going berserk. | 111m | Kendall Square + West Newton + suburbs

"THE ART OF PUPPETRY & STORYTELLING" | A 1979 episode of *The Muppet Show* in which Harry Belafonte sings with African-masked puppets and then the "Heartless Giant" episode of Jim Henson's 1988 TV series *The Storyteller*, in which a giant hides his heart so he'll feel no emotion. | 120m | Brattle: Sun

B

BACON'S ARENA | 2005 | Adam Low's documentary about 20th-century British artist Francis Bacon examines retrospectives of his work while drawing commentary from family, friends, collectors, and his fellow artists. | English + French + Spanish | 56m | MFA: Wed

⊕⊕⊖ **BAMAKO | 2006** | Maybe it's progress that studies are making movies about Africa such as *Blood Diamond* and *Beyond the Gates*. Maybe some day they'll make one in which the main characters aren't white. In the meantime, Malian director Abderrahmane Sissako balances the scales a bit with *Bamako*, in which the white guys — *i.e.*, "international financial institutions" — are not the heroes and in fact are put on trial. Sounds polemical, but it's not. True, eloquent barristers orate, arguing that the World Bank has opened Africa to the neo-colonialism of globalization. But the average Malians who're listening — the trial takes place in a "court" yard, the common area shared by several families in a slum in the title city — don't seem to care. A gun disappears, a couple suffer unspoken troubles, and a photographer praises death as the great issues are debated. Inspired more by the Theater of the Absurd and Godard than by any party line, *Bamako* judges not just Africa but the modern soul. | French + Bambara + English | 97m | Coolidge Corner

BEAU GESTE | 1939 | William A. Wellman directs this sound remake of the 1926 Ronald Colman silent, with Gary Cooper as Beau Geste, Ray Milland as John Geste, and Robert Preston as Digby Geste, three brothers who are taken up by Lady Brandon (Heather Thatcher). When the lights go out and her fabulous "Blue Water" sapphire disappears, all three Gestes join the Foreign Legion, where they run up against the villainous Sergeant Markoff (Brian Donlevy). | b&w | 112m | HFA: Tues

"A BETTER WORLD: LIVING IN HARMONY" | A 1983 episode from Jim Henson's *Fraggle Rock* TV series followed by Henson's "The Song of the Cloud Forest" (1989), an evocation of the rain forest. | 90m | Brattle: Sat

BEYOND THE GATES | 2007 | Brett Michel's review on page 6 | 115m | Kendall Square

THE BLACK MARIA TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL | The selections from the 16th festival include Eric Patrick's "Startle Pattern" (2006; 13m), Jay Rosenblatt's "Afraid So" (2006; 3m), Robert Todd's "Interplay" (2006; 6.5m), Anna Haydock's "Eaten" (2006; 6.5m), John Warren's "Elegy" (2006; 6m), Sergey Litovetz's "Kazan under Microscope" (2005; 20m), Diego Quemada-Diez's "I Want To Be a Pilot" (2006; 11m), Leighton Pierce's "My Person in the Water" (2006; 5.5m), Stacey Steers's "Phantom Canyon" (2006; 10m), and Dan Monceaux's "Shift in Perception" (2006; 16m). | 98m | MFA: Thurs

BLADES OF GLORY | 2007 | Peter Keough's review on page 8 | 93m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

"BOSTON FILMRACE 2007" | A "new filmmaking contest" presented by *New York City Midnights*; details will be available at www.brattlefilm.org | Brattle: Wed

THE BOYS & GIRLS GUIDE TO GETTING DOWN | 2007 | Paul Babin's review on page 6 | 85m | Fresh Pond

⊕⊕⊖ **BREACH | 2007** | Chris Cooper brings a reptilian charisma to notorious FBI double agent Robert Hanssen, who on the surface seems your normal, uptight 25-year FBI man. He's a right-winger, a fanatical Catholic, bitter about his thwarted ambitions, and a real grump to work with. He also likes kinky sex on the sly, devout rosary-reciting wife Bernie (Kathleen Quinlan) notwithstanding, or so FBI special agent Kate Burroughs (Laura Linney looking as if the last time she'd got laid was before the Wall came down) tells trainee Eric O'Neill (Ryan Phillippe), whom she assigns to catch Hanssen surfing naughty Web sites. As in *Shattered Glass* (2003), Ray sets most of the drama in nondescript offices, where he subtly stirs the tension of double identities, twisted duplicity, loyalty, honor, and betrayal. But Phillippe makes for a colorless hero, and after a good start (Cooper seems invulnerable and omniscient in his prickly orneriness), Hanssen just rolls over. You wonder why Ray didn't try to tell the story from Hanssen's point of view. Instead, in a cornered, Iago-like moment, Hanssen speculates on what his motive was — not the money, he says, not the ideology — but then breaks off and says the reason why makes no difference. As those spy thrillers from the '60s demonstrate, it makes all the difference in the world. | 110m | Circle + Somerville Theatre + suburbs

⊕⊕ **THE BREAKFAST CLUB | 1985** | In this appetizing failure of a comedy, writer/director John Hughes comes down with a bad case of puppy love for his own teen characters. Five socially diverse kids share a Saturday-morning detention at the school library, strip themselves of pretense, and get down to the core insecurity and anti-parent feelings they all share. As the mildly petulant prom queen, Molly Ringwald is impeccable; so is Anthony Michael Hall doing a more serious variation on his "Geek" from *Sixteen Candles*. (The quintet is filled out by Ally Sheedy, Emilio Estevez, and Judd Nelson.) Yet despite some genial, relaxed moments, the movie hammers home its themes so relentlessly that it ends up turning into Study Hall. | 92m | Coolidge Corner: Fri-Sat midnight

⊕⊕ **BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA | 2007** | Walden Media, the movie production company behind *Charlotte's Web* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*, works its adaptation alchemy on Katherine Paterson's Newbery winner with the usual middling results. Josh Hutcherson heads up a talented cast as an artistic loner who befriends an imaginative new girl (AnnaSophia Robb). At her urging, they create a forest fantasyland — interpreted with cheesy CGI — as an escape from the realistically portrayed hell of middle school. Yet this is no *Heavenly Creatures*. The screenplay (co-written by Paterson's son) retains the gritty emotion of its source but gets ponderous in the iconic third act. Meanwhile, Robb's cat-eyed beauty muddies the pals' chemistry (so much for the androgynous outcast of the novel), and the vaguely lascivious vibe beneath *Bridge* creator Gabor Csupo's direction confuses matters that much more. Nonetheless, *Terabithia* honors kids' intelligence (read: no fart jokes), and that alone makes it a land worth visiting. | 95m | Chestnut Hill + suburbs

⊕⊕⊖ **BUILDING THE GHERKIN | 2005** | Mirjam von Arx's documentary about the design and construction of the 41-story Swiss Re office tower in London's financial district starts off to the ominous strains of the dark waltz from Prokofiev's *Cinderella* and ends with Champagne corks popping to the jazzy, sparkly first movement of Ravel's Piano Concerto in G. In between, we learn how critics dubbed Sir Norman Foster's pickle-shaped proposal "The Gherkin" (other comparisons included a penis and a starship) and Sir Norman himself "an ennobled architect," how distressed Sir Norman was when part of the interior fit-out was awarded to another company, how the building went up between 2001 (yes, in the shadow of 9/11) and 2003, and how reinsurance and financial-services group Swiss Re can now look down on London. But we don't learn much about the finished interior, or what the critics thought after they saw the end result, and there's no postscript to explain why the tower was soon put on the market. (It sold last month for $1.2 billion.) What begins as a hard look at a new skyscraper winds up as a promotion for Sir Norman and for Swiss Re. | 53m | MFA: Sun + Wed

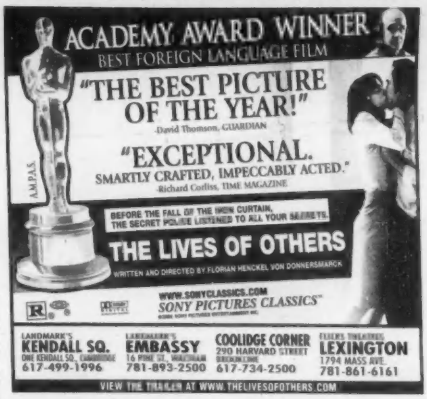
C

⊕⊕ **CHARLOTTE'S WEB | 2006** | This live-action adaptation of E.B. White's hallowed classic runs out of gas once the cows start farting. From there, director Gary Winick mines the current family-movie formula — puns, burps, adult humor — for an overload of smart-alecky barnyard banter. The greatest wonder in this film about miracles? That the heart of the novel survives. Equally uncertain are the prospects of piglet Wilbur (voiced by Dominic Scott Kay), who'll put you in mind of the superior *Babe*. He's rescued from the ax by plucky Fern (Dakota Fanning), but it's his new BFF Charlotte (a fine Julia Roberts) who must thwart his future as a sizzling side meat. The realistic arachnid isn't Happy-Meal-toy-cute; likewise, nemesis Templeton the rat (Steve Buscemi) embodies White's vision of rodent debauchery. Yet that's about all that escapes the maddening notion that subtlety isn't for kids. As a fatuous narrator pounds home the uplifting themes, the effect is as nuanced as a cow flop. | 96m | Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊖ **CHILDREN OF MEN | 2006** | It's the year 2027 in Alfonso Cuarón's adaptation of P.D. James's tart, uncompromising novel, and no new humans are being born. Boozy, cynical London journalist Theo (Clive Owen) gets a surprise visit from Julian (Julianne Moore), his ex-wife from years ago, when he was a political idealist. Julian has kept the faith and is a leader of an anti-government terror organization called "The Fishes." (In James, the Fishes are Christian and pacifist; here they are bristling with firepower.) She wants Theo to help the cause by hitting up his politically powerful cousin Nigel (Danny Huston) for a travel pass to the coast for a mysteriously pregnant young woman they're eager to get to safety. Against his better judgment, and not just for the big payoff he's offered, Theo agrees, and Nigel obliges. So begins a harrowing chase that makes *Apocalypto* look like *Cannonball Run II*. One almost overwhelming moment of emotion would have served the film well as an ending; that the proceedings continue with increasingly archetypal scenarios and imagery (a ship called *Tomorrow*? Please . . .) does little to dim the overall impact. And though Cuarón at times seems more reactionary than the staunchly Tory James, his film is pro-life in the original best sense. | 109m | West Newton + Arlington Capitol

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **CLIMATES | 2006** | University professor Isa (played by the film's director, Nuri Bilge Ceylan) is on holiday with his girlfriend, Bahar, a TV art director (Ebru Ceylan, the director's real-life wife), and tensions that have probably long been present between them come to the surface in strange, unpredictable ways. They break up. Months later, in Istanbul, Isa learns that Bahar is working on a shoot in Eastern Turkey, and he decides to follow her there and try to win her back. Ceylan's film is about radical solitude and its pain. Yet it's also about solitude as an illusion: in scene after scene, two consciousnesses are juxtaposed, and the solitude of one is only the momentary obliteration of the other. Ambient sound is so alive in *Climates* that even when the narrative sparseness, a line of dialogue, or a shot of the hero alone in a snowy street might prompt the

Continued on p 10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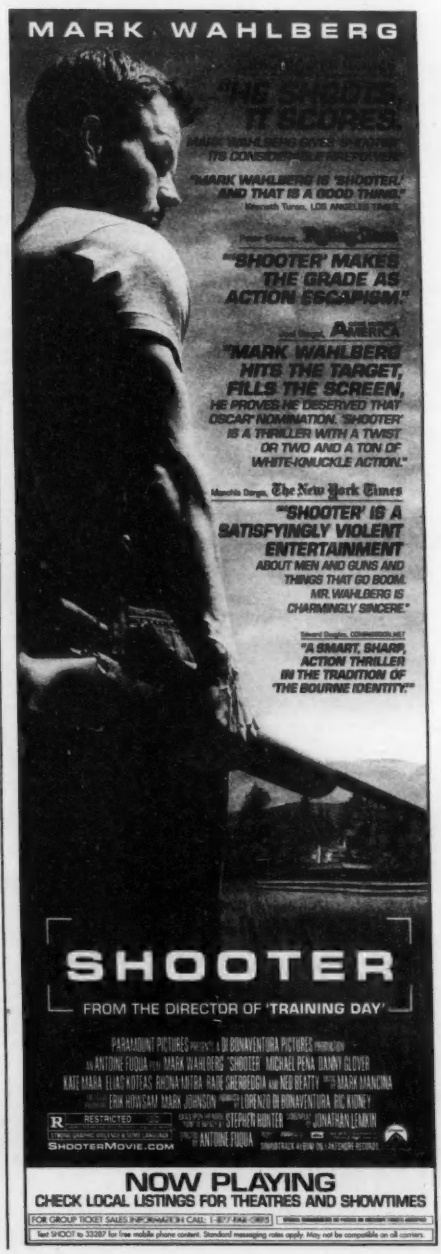
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CAPSULE REVIEWS
Film

Continued from p 9

lazy viewer to conclude, "It's about emptiness," the soundtrack insists that the world is full. Near the end of the film, Bahar tells Isa a dream, a happy one; then her mood darkens as she registers his inability to share her happiness. There are few performances like this in cinema, and few directors who have the penetration and the patience to film them. (Peter Keough's review of the Boston Turkish Film Festival on page 5) | Turkish | 101m | MFA: Sun

"COMMERCIALS & EXPERIMENTS" | This collection of "experimental shorts, crazy commercials, and other rarities" from the Henson vault includes a commercial and industrial film for "Wilson's Meat," excerpts from Henson's experimental television program *The Cube*, and "Time Piece," a nine-minute experiment from 1965. | 90m | Brattle: Sat

THE COURT-MARTIAL OF BILLY MITCHELL | 1955 | Otto Preminger made this bio-pic of General Billy Mitchell, who after some of his friends were killed in what amounted to toy planes questioned this country's commitment to its Air Corps during World War I and was court-martialled. With Gary Cooper as Billy (Mitchell's family would have preferred Jimmy Cagney), Ralph Bellamy as Republican congressman Frank R. Reid, and Rod Steiger as Major Allan Guillion, plus Charles Bickford, Fred Clark, Elizabeth Montgomery, Jack Lord, and Darren McGavin. | 106m | South Boston Branch Library: Thurs

⊕ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC | 1990** | Drab, inept, top-heavy, and entirely misguided, this version of the Edmond Rostand play, which is supposed to be about how little appearances count in comparison with wit, suffocates its source with pedantic "production values." Director Jean-Paul Rappeneau, who adapted the play with Jean-Claude Carrière, swings the camera around, or misplaces it, so you either miss the point of scenes or can't get your bearings. And Gérard Depardieu is miscast. The qualities of past great Cyranos (José Ferrer, Christopher Plummer, Steve Martin) include sly high style, physical and vocal agility, and speed and precision — not qualities you associate with Depardieu. Vincent Perez isn't bad as Christian, and in a few brief scenes as the baker Rageneau, Roland Bertin is lively and funny. | 138m | BPL: Tues

D

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **THE DARK CRYSTAL | 1983** | In this Tolkien-like fantasy quest film directed by the Muppets' Jim Henson and Frank Oz, the conjunction of three suns offers an opportunity to heal the dark crystal of the title, which was damaged 1000 years earlier, and the assignment goes to Jen, the last of the Gelfings, who must find the missing piece. | 93m | Brattle: Sun-Mon

⊕⊕ **DEAD SILENCE | 2007** | You could call this a hacked version of the *Saw* series, but its filmmakers, James Wan and Leigh Whannell, are the two hacks behind that macabre franchise. The plot arc and twist within a twist convention are identical. It even has Donnie Wahlberg as a grizzled cop, which he also played in *Saw 2* and *3*. About the only difference is the pissed-off ventriloquist subbing in as killing for the wooden puppet head known as Jigsaw. But Wan and Whanneli do know how to creep you out. The opening, where a young woman is gored by a dummy, hangs masterfully on its own. In response, her husband (Ryan Kwanten) returns to his home town to confront his estranged father (Bob Gunton) about the family's past with a puppeteer (Judith Roberts) who wanted her dolls to be more than wood and lacquer. Just who's the victim and where the blame lies gets twisted around to the point of inanity. And the strings of manipulation don't add up. Still, the duo do cut it on chill points. | 90m | Boston Common + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **THE DEPARTED | 2006** | Martin Scorsese's exuberant, ultimately exhausting film transplants the dynamics of the 2002 Hong Kong cult hit *Infernal Affairs* onto the malignant South Boston streets and wacky characters once ruled by Whitey Bulger. The Oscar winner for Best Film (and Scorsese finally picked up the Best Director statuette) remains true to the genre and authentic in atmosphere and details nearly to the end before blowing it all with a few too many bullets to the head, with an anarchic Jack Nicholson (a bit of everything here: the Joker from *Batman*, Jack from *The Shining*, Buddusky from *The Last Detail*) as Whitey stand-in Frank Costello, Matt Damon as former altar boy Colin Sullivan, who becomes a State Police cadet and Frank's mole in the department, and Leonardo DiCaprio as sensitive hothead Billy Costigan, whom avuncular department captain Queenan (Martin Sheen) and his bad-cop sidekick, Sergeant Dignam (Mark Wahlberg), send out to infiltrate Frank's gang. Nicholson holds the film together even when Scorsese sets off a bunch of flashbacks and parallel-edited montages like a long string of firecrackers. But Scorsese and screenwriter William Monahan tighten the screws by making Colin's girlfriend and Billy's shrink the same person, and Vera Farmiga's Madolyn is a plot device as vague as her accent. So too are the perfunctory pot shots of the dénouement. Scorsese isn't about plots; he's about people, places, and times, and until he departs from that, this film is a return to genius. | 145m | West Newton + suburbs

DESTINY | 2006 | Peter Keough's review of the Boston Turkish Film Festival on page 5 | Turkish | 107m | MFA: Sun

"DOG CITY" & "STORYTELLER" | The first of these, from 1989, has Muppet dog Rowlf narrating from the piano as a 1940s film noir city populated entirely by dogs unfolds. The second, from 1987, is an Anthony Minghella–written episode from Jim Henson's 1988 *Storyteller* TV series, "The Soldier and Death," in which a soldier returning home from war is given three magic objects and comes face to face with Death. | 90m | Brattle: Sun

⊕⊕ **DREAMGIRLS | 2006** | Bill Condon, the adapter of Tom Eyen & Henry Krieger's 25-year-old Broadway musical, scripted the screen adaptation of *Chicago*, and he's a far more capable director than that picture's Rob Marshall, yet he can't quite crack the emotional core of this material's fictionalization of the rise of the Supremes (here the Dreams) and Berry Gordy's Motown, with an ineffective Beyoncé Knowles and a constipated Jamie Foxx standing in for Diana Ross and Gordy while Eddie Murphy regurgitates his *SNL*-era James Brown routine. The picture's utter failure to capture the "Motown sound" is briefly lessened by *American Idol* loser Jennifer Hudson (who got the Best Supporting Actress Oscar) bellowing the crowd-pleasing "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going." | 131m | West Newton + suburbs

E

EN EL HOYO|IN THE PIT | 2006 | Gerald Peary's review in "Film Culture," on page 7 | 82m | Kendall Square

F

A FOREIGN AFFAIR | 1948 | The three points of Billy Wilder's romantic-triangle comedy are Jean Wilder as Congresswoman Phoebe Frost, who's sent to check on how the GIs' morals are holding up in decadent post-war Berlin; John Lund as Captain John Pringle, whose help Phoebe enlists as she tries to expose ex-Nazi café singer Erika von Schluetow; and, of course, Marlene Dietrich as Erika, who's already, uh, corrupted John. | b&w | 116m | Brattle: Thurs

"FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL" | Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett, ex of the Onion, bring in more home-video footage for the third installment of this event, and they provide context by tracking down some of the people you see on screen. | 90m | Coolidge Corner: Sat midnight

G

⊕⊕ **THE GOOD GERMAN | 2006** | Steven Soderbergh merges his mainstream aptitude with his proclivity for experimentation, making a conventional post-WW2 proto-espionage noir packed with movie stars, but daring to make it in the black-and-white style of period classics like *The Third Man*, *Notorious*, and *The Lady from Shanghai*. It's an affectation — the arch compositions, semi-mannered acting, and retro ominousness wilt, however initially bewitching it might be to have 'em characters curse like Chicago cops, and to have apple-cheeked Tobey Maguire play a ruthless bottom feeder. George Clooney is a US journalist come to partitioned Berlin, Maguire his scheming driver, Cate Blanchett his old-flame-turned-whore, the three of them tied up in a twist of plot involving hiding Nazis, Nazi hunters, Russians, black-marketeers, the US military, and the rubble of the city itself. The only realism is in the dialogue (which fleshes out on sufferings no 'tec film could've touched); the world it creates is a transparent riff. | 105m | Brattle: Thurs

⊕⊕⊕ **THE GREAT MUPPET CAPER | 1981** | As a secretary who becomes a top fashion model, singe-handedly apprehends a ring of jewel thieves, and finds true happiness with a skinny amphibian (Kermit the Frog), Miss Piggy is a magnetic presence — not since Joan Crawford has an actress so zealously and meticulously cultivated her screen image. *The Great Muppet Caper* is a vehicle for its porky star, but it's also a touching tongue-in-cheek tribute to moviemaking itself. Director (and Muppet creator) Jim Henson comes up with a couple of top-notch set pieces, such as a supper at the posh Dubonnet Club that's a distillation of every nightclub scene ever shot. And the chemistry between Kermit and Miss Piggy brings high-gloss romance back to the silver screen. | 95m | Brattle: Sat

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **DIE GROSSE STILLE|INTO GREAT SILENCE | 2006** | In 1984, documentary filmmaker Philip Gröning asked the Carthusian monastic order for permission to film at the Grande Chartreuse, one of the world's most ascetic monasteries. It took 16 years for the brothers to get back to Gröning, but the wait has been worth it. *Die große Stille* is a luminous — no, really, you won't believe how beautiful the light is in this film — and meditative appreciation of monastic life. Lacking both a narrator and any semblance of a story line, the episodic work is anchored only by a series of recurring Biblical quotations. It can be difficult to watch Gröning's camera turn humble acts of devotion into performance pieces — a scene in which a monk pauses in prayer before ringing the bells at daybreak would be better if nobody saw it. But such are the limitations of the medium, and Gröning has made a transformative film that deserves far more attention than it will receive. | German | 162m | Kendall Square + Embassy

H

⊕ **HAPPY FEET | 2006** | Taking up where *March of the Penguins* left off, George Miller's animated film imagines penguins who find love based on their heart songs — songs from the soul that speak to the penguin they're meant to be with. Of course, their heart songs are classic American pop — pity the penguin who tries to pitch woo by singing Grandmaster Flash. Elijah Wood stars as the voice of Mumbles, an Emperor penguin with the aforementioned happy feet. Mumbles can't sing and is therefore shunned, but he can dance, so you know it's all going to even out in the end. The penguins with wacky "personalities" include Mumbles' parents, Memphis (Hugh Jackman doing a pretty good Elvis) and Norma Jean (Nicole Kidman); movie stars imitating dead celebrities is creepy but weirdly fascinating. Rounding out the cast of totally forgettable characters are Robin Williams, playing up the crazy, and Brittany Murphy, as the Mariah Carey–ish love interest. | 87m | West Newton [Sun] + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊖ **HELLRAISER | 1987** | Clive Barker's first film — shown here with commentary by the D-Bags — is explicitly about sadomasochism, and he wants us to find a perverse, cathartic beauty in his visions of ripped flesh and dripping blood. But most of the movie is just repellent and obvious, with special effects that can't compare to those in most big-budget American gross-out thrillers. The sexually repressed Julia (Claire Higgins) helps the spirit of her brother-in-law/lover come back to life by luring strange men into the house and offering them up in sacrifice. Meanwhile, the spirits that brought the brother into darkness proselytize for the power of sin — with punk spikes lodged in their mime-white faces, they're like front-room hosts at the Laurie Anderson S&M Parlor. Barker sees no middle ground between cold, denatured sex and the hot turn-on of S&M, and even for a horror movie, that's an extreme — and fundamentally inaccurate — vision. | 94m | Coolidge Corner: Fri midnight

⊕⊕⊕ **THE HERMITAGE DWELLERS | 2003** | Aliona van der Horst's documentary sounds deadly, talking-head interviews with the people who toil within the Hermitage State Museum in St. Petersburg. But what extraordinary people! What surprising stories, of survival, of heroism, of suffering and tragedy. Opened in the mid 18th century as a home of the tsars, the Hermitage became also a private gallery featuring the opulent start-up collection of Catherine the Great. In the 19th century, the tsars kept adding items, a Leonardo, a Michelangelo, a Rembrandt, marble statues and crown jewels. Then with the overthrow of Tsar Nicholas II in 1917, the Hermitage turned state museum under the Communists, open to the People. That's when things get really bad. Stalin and Hitler! It's the elderly Hermitage employees, women in their 70s and 80s, who offer the woeful tales, shaking their heads in sorrow, choking on their words, still tearing up after all these years. What the Hermitage means to all of these people: a sanctuary from that awful world out there. | 73m | HFA: Thurs

THE HILLS HAVE EYES II | 2007 | Brett Michel's review on page 6 | 93m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **HIS GIRL FRIDAY | 1940** | Howard Hawks's breakneck, deliciously cynical version of the Ben Hecht/Charles MacArthur play *The Front Page* is that rare thing, a remake (of Lewis Milestone's 1930 film) far better than the original. This time the ace reporter is a workaholic woman (Rosalind Russell, in her finest role), and she's also the ex-wife of editor Cary Grant, who's trying to keep her from quitting the paper to marry a rube (Ralph Bellamy). Meanwhile, the hottest murder story of the year rages around them, as a poor meshuggenah (John Qualen) is being railroaded to the electric chair. Will our hardboiled reporters save him or exploit him? | b&w | 92m | North End Branch Library: Wed

THE HOAX | 2006 | That would be the one Clifford Irving (Richard Gere) perpetrated in the early '70s with his "authorized" biography of recluse Howard Hughes. With Alfred Molina as Dick Susskind, Hope Davis as Andrea Tate, Marcia Gay Harden as Edith Irving, Stanley Tucci as Shelton Fisher, Julie Delpy as Nina Van Pallandt, and Eli Wallach as Noah Dietrich; Lasse Hallström directs. | Boston Common + Harvard Square + Circle + suburbs: sneak preview Sat

⊖⊖⊖⊖ **THE HOST | 2006** | Running a rubber-gloved finger across gallons of dust-covered bottles of formaldehyde, a US military official (Scott Wilson, setting a darkly humorous tone) orders a Korean morgue attendant at a US Army base in Seoul to "empty every bottle to the very last drop," despite protests that the toxic chemicals will drain directly into the Han River. This actually happened in 2000. The consequences are not yet known, but in Bong Joon-ho's *The Host*, the follow-up to his superlative 2003 thriller *Memories of Murder*, the spill spawns a genetic mutation — part salamander, part fish, part . . . vagina — that emerges from the Han's shores six years later. A gloriously realized rampage leaves scores of day-trippers maimed or worse before the scampering 15-foot-long beast drags a young schoolgirl (Ko Ah-sung) into the murky depths. Government officials presume her dead, but not the Parks; her comically dysfunctional family (including Korean stars Song Gang-ho and Bae Du-na) would sacrifice their lives to get her back. It may be a "monster movie," but a multi-layered satire lurks just beneath the surface as Bong plumbs all manner of pathos and drama. Digs at US foreign policy add a welcome splash of muckraking. | Korean | 119m | Kendall Square

⊕⊕ **THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME | 1939** | The classic Charles Laughton version of this famous tale. Laughton's Quasimodo is a figure of overwhelming grotesquerie and pathos — it's an incomparable performance. Too bad the rest of the movie lets him down, with Harry Davenport playing a kindly, avuncular, straight-out-of-Hollywood Louis XI whose only thought is for his people and Maureen O'Hara's Esmeralda becoming an embarrassingly instant convert before a statue of the Virgin in Notre Dame. The Disney animated version is actually more faithful to the spirit of Victor Hugo's novel. William Dieterle directs. | b&w | 116m | BPL: Mon

I

⊕⊕ **ISLANDER | 2006** | Ian McCrudden's film is a well-meaning but too-somber regional tale of Eben (Thomas Hildreth), a hot-headed Maine fisherman whose temper leads to the death of a young seaman and, while he's in jail serving time, the dissolution of his marriage. When Eben gets out, the film slowly, and predictably, traces his penance and his return to the grace of his tight-jawed community. It's neither bad nor especially distinguished. Without stars, and with an anguished masochistic story, its theatrical life can only be brief. | 100m | West Newton

⊖ **I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE | 2007** | Chris Rock as a sensitive Manhattan investment banker with two kids? Who wears glasses and makes Japanese businessmen rich? It'd take a miracle to make this material funny, and "writer/director" Chris Rock, who was never much of an actor, is no Jesus. Stuck in a sexless marriage and surrounded by lame white people at work, Richard Cooper (Rock) seems like easy pickings for an aggressive, chain-smokin' hottie (Kerry Washington) from his past. The outcome is never in doubt (see the title!) as Rock uses every lame cliché in the adulterous-husband genre, as well as some painfully unnecessary voiceover and a scene in which our hero has to buy condoms at a drugstore from a recalcitrant clerk. The only laughs come from jokes so crass that they seem woefully out of place in such an embarrassingly predictable feel-good movie, which is based, yes, on Eric Rohmer's *L'amour l'après-midi*/*Chloé in the Afternoon* | 90m | Boston Common + suburbs

K

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **KAMOURASKA | 1973** | In the highly politicized climate of 1973 Quebec Claude Jutra's masterpiece was robbed of the warm critical reception it deserved because of its classical subject matter. Jutra adapted a bestseller by Anne Hébert about a sensuous, rebellious young woman (Bujold, in her most remarkable performance) in 1830s rural Quebec who marries the seigneur (Philippe Léotard) — the local landowner — and then, discovering he's an alcoholic whoremonger, takes up with an American doctor (Richard Jordan). The story has links to *Madame Bovary*, but Bujold's Elisabeth suggests other models from 19th-century fiction, like Thomas Hardy's Bathsheba Everdene. *Kamouraska* is actually more political than the Jutra's countrymen gave it credit for; it's an audacious indictment of the means employed by a provincial Victorian society governed by the French Catholic Church to repress a woman's spirit. | French + English| 124m | HFA: Fri-Sat

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **THE KING OF COMEDY | 1983** | "I am not an animal, I'm a stand-up comic!" might well be the catch phrase for this underrated Martin Scorsese film that does for the entertainment industry what *Raging Bull* did for boxing. Robert De Niro is brilliantly demented as Rupert Pupkin, a talentless schmo whose ambition to become the "King of Comedy" compels him to kidnap his idol, talk-show host Jerry Lewis, and demand a spot on Lewis's program. A creepy, hilarious, and unsparing look into the pathology of show business, it is not a story about pleasant or happy people. Suffice to say that Sandra Bernhard plays one of the few remotely sympathetic characters. | 109m | Coolidge Corner: Tues

L

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **EL LABERINTO DEL FAUNO/PAN'S LABYRINTH | 2006** | "Once upon a time," a voiceover begins, and Guillermo del Toro's camera rises up through a wormlike cave into the sunshine of Spain 1944, in the aftermath of the Civil War, where Ofelia (Ivana Baquero) is reading the fairy tale that's being narrated. Her martinet stepfather, Capitán Vidal (Sergi López), is a sadistic Fascist officer assigned to wipe out the last vestiges of Republican resistance in a frontier outpost. Ofelia seeks refuge from this unpleasant domestic situation in fantasy. A giant insect flitters up to her at bedtime and metamorphoses into a fairy who leads her to the labyrinth of the title, where a towering faun (Doug Jones) tells her she's the daughter of the King of the Underworld. Meanwhile, spies and guerrillas and Fascists clash. When the two tales intersect, neither the nightmare of history nor the nightmare of childhood offers refuge from the other, but in one, at least, innocence proves triumphant. | Spanish | 112m | Somerville Theatre + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕ **LABYRINTH | 1986** | Directed by Muppet master Jim Henson (under the auspices of George Lucas), from a script by Terry Jones, this cross between *Alice in Wonderland* and *The*

Continued on p 12

"★★★★ TRANSPORTING." –Ty Burr, BOSTON GLOBE
"LUMINOUS." –Richard Beck, THE PHOENIX
"UTTERLY SPELLBINDING." –A.O. Scott, NEW YORK TIMES
"EXTRAORDINARY." –NEW YORK MAGAZINE
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CAPSULE REVIEWS

Film

Continued from p 11

Wizard of Oz concerns a teenage girl (pretty but insufficiently interesting Jennifer Connelly) who wishes that the goblins might kidnap her stepbrother. Jareth (David Bowie), their king, obliges, whereupon, filled with remorse, she's off through the labyrinth to Jareth's castle. The film's assets are the humor in Jones's screenplay and the wit in Brian Froud's oddball creations; its shortcoming is Henson's direction. | 101m | Brattle: Sat + Mon

⊕⊕⊕ **THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND | 2006** | Like Idi Amin himself, Forest Whitaker's performance (which won him a Best Actor Oscar) bullies, charms, terrifies, and touches. It's too much for Nicholas Garrigan (James McAvoy), a zoish Scottish doctor who spins a globe to discover where he'll try to make his fortune. His finger falls on Uganda, where he finds himself in a bush hospital battling intractable misery until Amin taps him to be his private physician. Lulled by cars, sex, and power, but mostly by Amin, he remains silent while 300,000 die. Director Kevin Macdonald takes liberties with Giles Foden's fine novel, making it more Hollywood and less human. This Idi's appeal prevails, but his evil is lacking. | 123m | Somerville Theatre + Arlington Capitol

⊕⊕ **THE LAST MIMZY | 2007** | Bob Shaye, the president of New Line, aims for E.T.-like wonder in his first feature since 1990. Nice try. An eclectic mix of family drama, aliens from the future, and Tibetan mysticism, *The Last Mimzy* never coheres. With two annoyingly precocious kids in the lead (is there any other kind these days?), it won't charm adults, but kids will be at a loss too. Mimzy is a toy — a stuffed bunny — sent from the future to procure some untainted DNA and bring it back to save the human race from something like global warming. Having been found on a beach by a brother and sister, she and the crap from the future she comes with bestow superpowers upon the siblings. Their parents freak out, and they all land in trouble with the government — which of course jeopardizes their hopes of saving the future Earth. Weird, and needlessly complicated — the beauty of E.T. was its simplicity. | 94m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **DAS LEBEN DER ANDEREN|THE LIVES OF OTHERS | 2006** | Despite the cliché of setting his Best Foreign Film Oscar winner in 1984, 33-year-old writer/director Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck makes a sure-handed debut with this story about East German Stasi captain Gerd Wiesler (Ulrich Mühe in Michael Haneke's 1997 *Funny Games*), a dedicated career snoop who's assigned to nest in the empty attic above the newly bugged apartment writer Georg Dreyman (Sebastian Koch) shares with actress (and the lead in his play) Christa-Maria Sieland (Martina Gedeck). It gradually dawns on Wiesler that he's there because government minister Bruno Hempf (Thomas Thieme) has the hots for the sexy Sieland. Hempf tosses Dreyman to the Stasi and offers Sieland a choice: comply or be blacklisted. But then Wiesler the loyalist breaks protocol, gently imposing upon Sieland during her moment of greatest weakness, and need. It's the first step on a long road of discarded secrets and lies that will find a lonely man set free. | German | 137m | Kendall Square + Coolidge Corner + Embassy

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **LITTLE WOMEN | 1933** | George Cukor's warm and toasty version of the Louisa May Alcott novel about a lovely widow's lovely daughters growing up during the Civil War has Katharine Hepburn as Jo, Frances Dee as Meg, Joan Bennett as Amy, Jean Parker as Beth, Douglass Montgomery as Laurie, John Lodge as John Brooke, Paul Lukas as Professor Bhaer, and Spring Byington as Marmee. | b&w | 117m | West Roxbury Branch Library: Thurs

LIVE FREE OR DIE | 2006 | Tom Meek's review on page 6 | 89m | Harvard Square

THE LOOKOUT | 2007 | Tom Meek's review on page 6 | 98m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

M

⊕⊕⊕ **MAFIOSO | 1962** | Many American film buffs know the names of the leading Italian neo-realists, but few would recognize that of Alberto Lattuada. He's the director who gave Fellini his start; they helmed *Luci del varietà*/*Variety Lights* together. Now this little-seen 1962 romp gets a second shot at stateside release. Fellini veteran Alberto Sordi stars as Antonio, the manager of a Milan auto plant who after eight years away decides to take his wife, Marta (Norma Bengell), and their two daughters to Sicily to meet his family. The family greet them with bawdy, boisterous glee, shoving oodles of food at the new arrivals. But trouble looms: people consider Marta, the only blonde on the island (!), to be stuck up, and despite Antonio's genuflections, local mob boss Don Vicenzo (Ugo Attanasio) asks him to do a favor he can't refuse. Female facial hair, a knife fight between two octogenarians, and some Jacques Tati moments work their way into the almost mix that's oh so very Fellini . . . er, Lattuada-esque. | Italian | 93m | Kendall Square + Embassy

MAGIC CARPET RIDE | 2005 | Yilmaz Erdogan's comedy is no *Aladdin* but a "lighthearted" look at organized crime in Istanbul. (Peter Keough's review of the Boston Turkish Film Festival on page 5) | Turkish | 106m | MFA: Fri

THE MAGICIAN | 2006 | Peter Keough's review of the Boston Turkish Film Festival on page 5 | Turkish | 122m | MFA: Fri

MEET THE ROBINSONS | 2007 | Tom Meek's review on page 6 | 92m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + West Newton + suburbs

"MUPPET FAIRYTALES" | Two: Jim Henson's "The Frog Prince (1971) and David Grossman's "The Elves and the Shoemaker" (1994), the latter with twists like the elves actually being Elvises. | 105m | Brattle: Sun

"MUPPET HISTORY 101" | This program of early live TV appearances, commercials, and guest spots with Jimmy Dean and Dick Cavett also includes excerpts from the pilot for what would become *The Muppet Show*: "The Muppets: Sex and Violence," with a tribute to the Seven Deadly Sins. | 90m | Brattle: Mon

⊕⊕⊕ **THE MUPPET MOVIE | 1979** | Hollywood calling, or so Bernie the Agent (Dom DeLuise) assures Kermit the Frog, as our green hero packs up and heads for Tinseltown, picking up fellow aspiring movie stars Fozzie Bear, Miss Piggy, Gonzo, and many more along the way while trying to steer clear of Doc Hopper (Charles Durning), who wants Kermit to be the spokesfrog for his new Frog Leg restaurant chain. The usual Muppet mayhem ensues. With Rowlf, Dr. Teeth, the Swedish Chef, Link Hogthrob, Sam the American Bald Eagle, Dr. Bunsen Honeydew, Beaker, Animal, Sweetums, Janice, and, of course, Statler and Waldorf, plus Milton Berle, Mel Brooks, James Coburn, Elliott Gould, Bob Hope, Madeline Kahn, Steve Martin, Richard Pryor, Telly Savalas, Orson Welles, and lots more; James Frawley directed. | 95m | Brattle: Fri

⊕⊕⊕ **MUPPETS FROM SPACE | 1999** | Nine years after Jim Henson's death and two ill-conceived period capers later, the franchise is finally back on its spindly green legs. First-time director Tom Hill abandons soggy song-and-dance in favor of a wholesome plot: charismatic oddball Gonzo's search for his family. Belonging to no genus or species, the hirsute chicken fetishist wonders the big Hows and Whys while on the hunt for his blue-nosed brethren. Sage Kermit reaches profound new levels of best-friendness, Miss Piggy is resplendent in various shades of violet, and creepy madman Animal easily aces creepy madman David Arquette, who's seen here in a cameo. The lasting impression, however, is Gonzo's embrace of the superstar critter within. | 87m | Brattle: Sun-Mon

MUPPETS MUSICAL MOMENTS | This compilation of musical numbers from *The Muppet Show* includes performances by Harry Belafonte, Elton John, and Deborah Harry. We're also hoping for Hal Linden and Twiggy. | 75m | Brattle: Fri-Sat

⊕⊕⊕ **THE MUPPETS TAKE MANHATTAN | 1984** | This time out, our cloth companions are would-be stars trying to make it on Broadway, and Jim Henson and Frank Oz throw in some lavish cinematic set pieces, a terrific new character named Rizzo the Rat, and a wedding for Kermit and Miss Piggy that's both rowdier and more romantic than anyone might have expected. | 94m | Brattle: Sat

⊕⊕ **MUSIC AND LYRICS | 2007** | How accommodating of the characters in *Music and Lyrics* to point out what, taste-wise, is "good" and "bad." The treacly ballad with music written by washed-up '80s pop star (of the band "Pop") Alex (Hugh Grant) and lyrics by his ditzy plant waterer, Sophie (Drew Barrymore), is "good." But the part-rap, part–Ravi Shankar interpretation by superstar Cora Corman (Haley Bennett), a Spears/Aguilera/Jewel fusion with Zen pretensions, is "bad." Alex, desperate for a comeback, wants to "sell out" by going along with the "bad" version, but Sophie insists on remaining true to their art (which she has been practicing for less than a week). Can they work it out and fall in love as in all "good" romantic comedies? Actually, the "bad" version of the song isn't so bad, but except for some of Grant's bon mots and the fleeting moments when music and lyrics nearly jell, as in a real musical, it's about all that's good in this movie. | 96m | Boston Common + Circle + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **MY FAIR LADY | 1964** | Thirty years ago this adaptation of Alan Jay Lerner's musical stage version of Shaw's *Pygmalion* won scads of Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Actor for Rex Harrison, appropriately stiff and dry and tuneless as the linguist and snob Professor Henry Higgins, who bets he can transform cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle (Audrey Hepburn) into an upper-class twit. Hepburn's singing voice is dubbed by Marni Nixon (they should have let her do it herself), and she never looks like less than a princess in disguise, but her "In 'ertford, 'ereford and 'ampshire, 'urricanes 'ardly hever 'appen" is a tour de force. With the classic Lerner & Lowe score, especially delicious when Stanley Holloway belts out "I'm Getting Married in the Morning" and "With a Little Bit of Luck." | 170m | North End Branch Library: Tues

N

⊕⊕⊕ **THE NAMESAKE | 2007** | Many local fans of Jhumpa Lahiri's novel *The Namesake* especially enjoyed the details of its Cambridge setting. No such luck with Mira Nair's adaptation: Gogol Ganguli (Zak Penn) starts life with his Bengali parents Ashoke (Irfan Khan) and Ashima (Tabu) in a generic New York City, a blurring of specificity that drags on the film from the start. Thereafter, Nair dutifully recounts the travails and adjustments of immigrants and their children over several decades, with Gogol bearing the additional challenge of his name, a nod to his father's love of, and debt to, the brilliantly bizarre Russian author. The clash between cultures and the vagaries of identity unfold in sometimes colorful anecdotes, none resonant. Mortality intrudes in the form of timely heart attacks, and long before one of Ashima's American friends counsels her to "follow her bliss," it's become clear that this mild family melodrama owes little to the namesake of the title. | 85m | Boston Common + Harvard Square + Coolidge Corner + Embassy

⊕⊕⊖ **NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM | 2006** | "This is not worth $11.50 an hour," blurts exasperated dreamer Larry Daley (Ben Stiller) when his night-watchman job at New York's Museum of Natural History takes on a life of its own. Neither is this latest from director Shawn Levy (the *Cheaper by the Dozen* and *Pink Panther* remakes) worth $10 for two hours. But $6 for a matinee? Sure — and take the kids. While you're adding up the debatable entertainment value of watching Stiller interact yet again with pal Owen Wilson (as a miniature diorama cowboy come to life), the young ones (and the young at heart) will roar with approval as "history comes alive," animating t-rex remains, a Capuchin monkey, Attila the Hun, and whatever's left of Robin Williams's career (though he's less animated than usual as a waxen replica of museum benefactor Teddy Roosevelt) as night falls. Plus, the monkey repeatedly slaps Stiller in a family-friendly, fluid-free flip side of an infamous *There's Something About Mary* scene. | 108m | Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **NOTES ON A SCANDAL | 2006** | Patrick Marber (*Closer*) adapts Zoë Heller's dark, satirical novel for the screen, and the film directed by Richard Eyre (*Stage Beauty*), with a juicy Brit Pack cast. Judi Dench's Barbara is a spinster history teacher at a London school who narrates the story with tart, dolorous wit. Captivated by a new art instructor, Sheba (a white-hot Cate Blanchett), whose wealth and beauty are a draught of nectar to her own drab existence, Barbara is flattered by Sheba's friendliness and trust. When she discovers Sheba's affair with a student, her moral outrage turns to narcissistic manipulation as she tries to conceal their secret. This is an original, unpredictable film, erotic and surprisingly intense. Too bad Philip Glass's overwrought score thinks it's a horror movie, but British-cinema fans shouldn't miss this one. | 98m | West Newton + Arlington Capitol

O

⊕⊕⊕ **OFFICE SPACE | 1999** | Mike Judge, creator of TV's *Beavis and Butt-head* and *King of the Hill*, turns surprisingly civilized in his first live-action feature, which is based on "Milton," his animated shorts that predated reigning cubicle king Dilbert in lampooning the contemporary corporate wasteland. Judge's hero, Peter (Ron Livingston, ideal in his bewildered blandness), is lost in the partitioned rat maze of Initech and bedeviled by his passive-aggressive boss Lumbergh (a satanically breezy Gary Cole). But after a hypnotherapy session gone wrong, Peter ignores his superiors, seldom shows up, hits on a cute waitress named Joanna (Jennifer Aniston, a plot addendum), and starts to be seen as management material. Midway through, though, Judge turns his film into a half-assed revenge of the nerds, as Peter and fellow drones Michael Bolton (David Herman) and Samir (Ajay Naidu) plot a computer ripoff. | 89m | Harvard Square: Fri

LES ORDRES | 1974 | This is the film Michel Brault is best known for in his native Quebec, a harrowing depiction of the injustices sown by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's passing of the War Measures Act in 1970, in the aftermath of the terrorist activities of the Quebec nationalist group the FLQ. | French | b&w | 109m | HFA: Sun

P

⊕⊕⊕ **THE PAINTED VEIL | 2006** | Somerset Maugham might have inspired more movie adaptations than any other author, but not because his perversely realistic view of human behavior follows Hollywood formula. In his 1925 novel *The Painted Veil*, here adapted by John Curran (*We Don't Live Here Anymore*), vapid socialite Kitty Garstin (Naomi Watts) marries charmless epidemiologist Walter Fane (Edward Norton) out of desperation. He takes her to his post in Shanghai, where she promptly cheats on him. Mortified, he takes her into the midst of a cholera epidemic deep in China, where he devotes himself to finding a cure. Kitty, meanwhile, is inspired by the French nuns who are tending the sick. Will Kitty find redemption and reconciliation? Enter screenwriter Ron Nyswaner (*Philadelphia*) with bliss montages. Although it includes the politics neglected by Maugham, and fine acting by Watts in particular, this is just another white love story before the painted veil of the Third World. | 125m | West Newton

"PAST IMAGE PRESENT: AN EVENING WITH REBECCA BARON" | The LA-based filmmaker comes to Boston with four works: Humphrey Jennings's "Spare Time" (1939; b&w; 15m), which is related to her involvement with Britain's Mass Observation movement, and her own "The Idea of North" (1995; b&w; 14m), "okay bye-bye" (1998; 39m), and "How Little We Know of Our Neighbors" (2005; video; 49m). | HFA: Wed

⊕⊕ **PEACEFUL WARRIOR | 2006** | The wise-elder/insolent-apprentice story has been so durable in Hollywood that many scriptwriting manuals teach it as a paradigm. Inspired by Dan Millman's New Age bestseller, Victor Salva's crib follows the template by the numbers. Scott Mechlowicz's Millman is the big man on a Berkeley campus inhabited seemingly only by 35-year-old models. A star gymnast and champion rake, Millman is perfect but wants more: a spot on the Olympic team. Enter Nick Nolte as an unnamed "Qwik-E-Mart philosopher." Lecturing from his gas station/convenience store, he teaches his ambitious pup to harness superbia with mundane tasks and aphorisms that sounded better in Mr. Miyagi's affected accent ("Take out the trash to clear your mind"). The kitsch factor is excruciating. Salva's disciplined direction and Nolte's wheezy performance supply a modicum of grace to this otherwise banal exercise. | 120m | Boston Common + Kendall Square + West Newton

THE PLAY | 2005 | Pelin Esmer follows women in a Turkish mountain village as they create and produce a drama based on their own lives, gaining confidence in themselves and respect from others (including their husbands) along the way. It's preceded by Umut Aral's "Crash" (2005; 18m), in which three criminals cross paths. (Peter Keough's review of the Boston Turkish Film Festival on page 5) | Turkish | 70m | MFA: Sat

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **THE POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS TWICE | 1946** | James M. Cain's tight, purplish erotic thriller — a swift, satisfying read — has been filmed twice in this country and once in Italy. This version, adapted by Harry Ruskin and Niven Busch, and directed by Tay Garnett and lushly photographed by Sidney Wagner, is the sleekest and most enjoyable. It stars Lana Turner, in her trademark performance as a bored, horny, homicidal femme fatale — Cain's specialty. John Garfield is vividly sexual as the drifter who falls for her and helps her to eliminate her troublesome husband (Cecil Kellaway). Close-ups of Garfield draw you in even more forcefully than close-ups of other '40s stars: he seems to receive sensory messages through his skin. | b&w | 113m | BPL: Thurs

⊕ **PREMONITION | 2007** | Sometimes you wake up and life seems like a badly edited movie. Poor Linda (Sandra Bullock) can't tell whether it's Tuesday, when she and husband Jim (Julian McMahon) had a run-in about his new blonde assistant manager, or Wednesday, when Jim died in a car crash, or Sunday, when Dr. Roth (Peter Stormare) shot her full of thorazine and took her to the booby hatch. She even tries putting together a chart, something director Mennan Yapo doesn't seem to have referred to. Thank God the local priest puts everything in perspective with a string of family-values clichés. David Lynch's *Inland Empire* finds a woman undergoing a similar disruption in chronological narrative, but where *Empire* shatters cumbersome preconceptions of self and reality, *Premonition* clutches at the comfort of trite platitudes. Neither film makes much sense; in *Premonition*, however, that's the result of incompetent filmmaking rather than an insight into the way things are. | 97m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **PRIDE | 2007** | Predictable and rickety, yet heartfelt, *Pride* dips into the rage of civil rights as a team of inner-city African-American teens from Philadelphia *circa* 1971 jumps into the white world of swimming. (It was former LA Dodgers general manager Al Campanis who suggested blacks weren't buoyant enough to swim, just as they didn't have the qualities to manage a baseball team.) The movie is based on the real-life travails of Jim Ellis, who coaches the misfit lot after experiencing a dose of racism himself. Terrence Howard (*Crash*) plays Ellis with smoldering resolve and guarded optimism; Bernie Mac hangs in his wake as the curmudgeonly custodian of the recreation center about to be shuttered, and Tom Arnold does laps as the bigoted swim coach from the lily-white Main Line Academy. The premise of the underdog fighting against stacked odds doesn't figure to break new ground, and director Sunu Conera doesn't try to. He does, however, evoke the power of hope and the sting of racism. | 104m | Boston Common + Fenway + suburbs

THE PRISONER, OR: HOW I PLANNED TO KILL TONY BLAIR | 2006 | Peter Keough's review on page 6 | 72m | Kendall Square

Q

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **THE QUEEN | 2006** | Stephen Frears's film has Helen Mirren (Oscar for Best Actress) in the title role as Elizabeth II, and when, early on, she stares icily askance at the camera and then directly into it, and it's like the face on a pound note coming to life. The story has to do with the demand for a public funeral after the death of Princess Di. That death occurs while the Royal Family is in retreat at Balmoral Castle, and the queen decides to remain isolated there, comforting William and Harry, and make no public statement. It doesn't work that way in the age of celebrity worship, however, an age Labor PM Tony Blair (Michael Sheen) and especially his canny aide Campbell (Tim McMullan), who's drafting Blair's statement an hour after Di-ana dies, embrace. The statement, in which Blair declared Diana "the People's Princess," sent his approval ratings soaring. At the expense, of course, of HRH. Their relationship in the film, however, is not antagonistic. Although played out mostly via telephone, it is a delicate pas de deux representing the passing of a perhaps better order of things. Certainly Elizabeth is the one who proves noblest, and most endearing. | 103m | West Newton

R

RADICAL JESTERS | 2007 | Tim Jackson will appear in person at this premiere screening of his documentary about performers who include Improv Everywhere, the Surveillance Camera Players, Boston's Institute for Infinitely Small Things, the Guerrilla Girls, Bread and Puppet Theater, local prankster Jon Hargrave, and Jon King from Gang of Four. | 90m | Brattle: Sat midnight

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **LA RÈGLE DU JEU/THE RULES OF THE GAME | 1939** | Having chronicled the death throes of the European aristocracy in *Grand Illusion*, Jean Renoir set this film, which he made two years later, among the new aristocracy in France: the nouveaux riches, for whom love is a game with a fixed set of rules. To break them — as the anachronistic romantic, the aviator Jurieu (Roland Toutain), does — is in bad taste and not to be tolerated. Both a social and a psychological drama, this movie was almost lost to us forever; the original negative was destroyed by the Nazis and the film had to be reassembled from bits and pieces in the '50s. Renoir worked with Carl Koch on the screenplay (based loosely on Alfred de Musset's *Les caprices de Marianne*); Claude Renoir shot it; Coco Chanel designed the costumes. The superlative cast includes Marcel Dalio, Nora Grégor, Mila Parély, Odette Talazac, Julien Carette, Paulette Dubost, and Renoir himself. | French | b&w | 113m | HFA: Tues

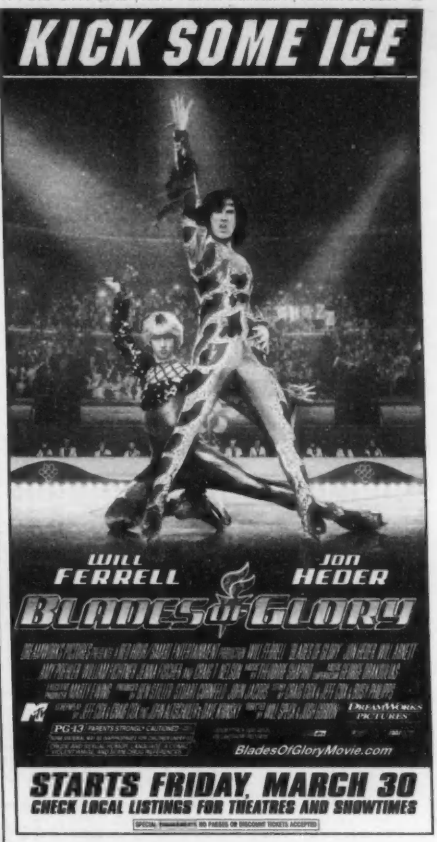
⊕⊕ **REIGN OVER ME | 2007** | It's a commonplace that real-world ugliness is the best kind of fodder for artistic beauty, but if *Reign over Me*, which is written and directed by Mike Binder, demonstrates one thing, it's that 9/11 isn't up for redemption just yet. The focal points are Alan Johnson (Don Cheadle), a dentist with problems at work and in marriage, and Charlie Fineman (Adam Sandler), who lost his family to the hijackers. The two bump into each other by chance after years apart, and Alan quickly discovers that Charlie, who spends his time cruising downtown Manhattan via scooter, has fallen apart. Both actors give admirable performances, but they can't quite navigate the script, which swerves from pathos to laughs with little warning and less sense. Binder can't decide whether he wants to confront his audience or help it get by with a hug, so he throws a buddy movie and a therapy flick together and hopes for the best, but nobody's going to come out of this one healed. | 120m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Chestnut Hill + West Newton + suburbs

⊕⊕ **THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW | 1975** | This horror-camp extravaganza still draws midnight crowds. Its story of two dorky, all-American kids (Barry Bostwick and Susan Sarandon) who find themselves indoctrinated into the pansexual ways of Dr. Frank-N-Furter is no more outrageous than *La Cage aux Folles*, but only a curmudgeon would deny the magnetism of Tim Curry, whose lip-smacking rendition of "Sweet Transvestite" remains one of the high points in all of cult movies. Jim Sharman directs. | 100m | Harvard Square: Sat midnight

S

SHATTERED SOUL | 2006 | Peter Keough's review of the Boston Turkish Film Festival on page 5 | Turkish | 128m | MFA: Thurs

Continued on p 14



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CAPSULE REVIEWS

Film

Continued from p 13

⊖⊖ **SHOOTER | 2007** | It was only a matter of time before the Democrats had a version of *Rambo* to call their own. Too bad it's as dull and generic as their last couple of candidates. Bereft of the personality that earned him an Oscar nomination for *The Departed*, Mark Wahlberg hits his marks as Bob Lee Swagger (!), a former Army sniper who's retreated to hermetic mountain life after his country abandoned him during a Mission Gone Bad. Colonel Isaac Johnson (Danny Glover, mumbling like Menino) persuades a reluctant "Gunny," whose only companion for the past three years has been his dog, to "plan a presidential assassination" — in order to prevent a real one. Antoine (*Training Day*) Fuqua's latest might as well have been called *The Patsy*: Bob Lee is set up, shot twice, and forced to run, jump, and seek revenge with large guns. All this has something to do with a corrupt senator (a snaky Ned Beatty) and blood for oil, but no matter — the Republican bastards killed Gunny's dog! | 120m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

THE SOCIALIST, THE ARCHITECT AND THE TWISTED TOWER | 2005 | The socialist is Swedish politician Johnny Örbäck, the architect is Spain's Santiago Calatrava, and the "twisted tower" is the Turning Torso in Malmö, what would be the highest residential building in Scandinavia if it ever gets built in the face of spiraling costs and the usual debates about tall new buildings. | Swedish | 60m | MFA: Thurs

T

⊖⊖ **300 | 2006** | Outside a Chippendale show you'll never see this many half-clad beefcakes in a single gander. But this is no erotic spectacle — at least, not intentionally. No, this adaptation of Frank Miller's graphic novel details the historic stand of the 300 Spartans of the title against the massive Persian army in 480 BC. Miller, creator of *Sin City*, fashioned the epic after the 1962 sword-and-sandal drama *The 300 Spartans*. The upgrade gets a boost from Gerard Butler as the dutiful Spartan king, Leonidas, and from Lena Headey, who adds a splash of fire as his wife. Not that director Zack Snyder shows much interest in them as he twists the brawn and battle into a cartoonish FX extravaganza with severed body parts and globules of blood flying across the screen. It makes an impression, granted, as does Xerxes (Rodrigo Santoro): seven feet tall, and more drag queen than king. He and his minions have created a regime that one Spartan tags a rule of "mysticism and tyranny." Sound familiar? | 89m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Chestnut Hill + Embassy + Somerville Theatre + suburbs

⊖⊖ **TMNT | 2007** | Cowabunga, dude! With advances in CGI FX this was bound to happen: back in early '90s, the popular kids' cartoon *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* got turned into a cheesy live-action feature series, and now, some 14 years later, it's resurrected as an animated feature that's titled as just an acronym. The story picks up with the crimefighting team languishing in disarray. It seems sibling rivalry has torn the outfit apart; fortunately, 13 transmogrified beasties have descended on New York City to wreak havoc and give the reptilian lads an opportunity to galvanize and kick ass. Also in the fray: a cursed warrior king from 3000 years back, stone statues swinging swords, and Asian cinema darling Ziyi Zhang as the voice of Karai, the head of an elite ninja troop. The plot's all over the place, but director Kevin Munroe keeps it at a hare's pace. The sharp graphics impress too. It's nothing to cow about, but it does, more or less, fill its shell. | 83m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + Suburbs

"THE 2006 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATED SHORT DOCUMENTARIES" | 2006 | The winner was "The Blood of Yingzhou District" (39m), from Ruby Yang and Thomas Lennon, about a young Chinese AIDS orphan. Also: "Recycled Life" (38m), from Leslie Iwerks and Mike Glad, about the families who making a living off the Guatemala City Garbage Dump; "Rehearsing a Dream" (40m), from Karen Goodman and Kirk Simon, about high-school kids who get to work with performing-arts stars; and "Two Hands" (18m), from Nathaniel Kahn and Susan Rose Behr, about pianist Leon Fleisher. | Coolidge Corner

V

⊖⊖⊖ **VA, VIS ET DEVIENS[LIVE AND BECOME] | 2005** | Based on the stories of the Ethiopian Jews who arrived as refugees in Israel in the 1980s as part of Operation Moses, writer/director Radu Mihaileanu's film tells the fictionalized story of a Christian child whose mother passes him off as Jewish to save him from the famine. He's adopted by an Israeli family, and Mihaileanu is at his best in these early years, as nine-year-old Schlomo struggles with life in a new country. But the film goes on for another hour and a half, following Schlomo through high school and into adulthood. He's portrayed by three actors; Moshe Agazai brings heartbreaking intensity to young Schlomo, and the film never recovers when the others step in. The most affecting scenes occur early, as when Schlomo takes off his new sneakers to walk barefoot the way he did in Africa. By the time this meandering movie reaches Schlomo's adulthood, you'll feel you've added a few years too. | Amharic + Hebrew + French | 140m | West Newton: Sun

VISIONS FROM THE INFERNO | 2004 | Peter Dimitrov's documentary looks at the career of artist Adolf Aaron Frankl (1903–1983), who survived Auschwitz and then with his family survived the Communists before moving to Vienna, where he painted his death-camp cycle "Visions from the Inferno." | English + French | 58m | MFA: Thurs

⊖⊖⊖⊖ **VOLVER | 2006** | Raimunda (willowy Penélope Cruz with an ample prosthetic ass) is a young mother with a teenage daughter (Yohana Cobo) and a layabout husband. They live in a tenement in Madrid, though Raimunda and her sister Sole (Lola Duenas) come from a village in La Mancha, where their parents died four years ago in a mysterious fire. Several locals, however, claim to have seen the ghost of the sisters' mother, Irene (Carmen Maura). At a family funeral, Sole spots her too, and when she gets back to Madrid, she finds Irene has stowed away in the trunk of her car. "Volver," which means "overturn" or "come back," describes more than just Irene's reappearance — it's also writer/director Pedro Almodóvar's return to the melodramatic plots and twisted comedy that marked his early films. *Volver*'s sense that the dead and the living are never far apart isn't morbid, but it adds a rueful, more mature air to Almodóvar's once-madcap style. What hasn't changed over the years is his appreciation of women. All the actresses are terrific, but the director lavishes special attention on Cruz, caressing every (real and fake) curve of her body with his camera and giving her her juiciest role to date. | Spanish | 121m | Somerville Theatre [Sat + Mon-Thurs] + Arlington Capitol

W

⊖⊖ **WILD HOGS | 2007** | Four suburban males in the throes of midlife crisis decide the remedy is to don leather, saddle a Harley, and cruise across the county — with no rules. That's the excuse, anyway, for John Travolta, Martin Lawrence, Tim Allen, and William H. Macy to hook up, ham it up and spark a few laughs. The four venerable actors have a good time, though their uneasy-rider shtick runs out of gas too soon and it's up to Ray Liotta's pissed-off biker boss (shades of *Something Wild*) to give the movie torque. Marisa Tomei adds some spice as the object of desire in the sleepy Southwestern sticks, and John C. McGinley is the scariest thing on the interstate as a trooper with a zest for S&M and all-male cuddle parties. But it's a bumpy ride; TV writer Brad Copeland and director Walt Becker (Van Wilder) rev up the gags until their gears are stripped. Instead of opening up the throttle, *Hogs* ends up idling and spreading exhaust. | 125m | Boston Common + Fresh Pond + suburbs

⊖⊖⊖⊖ **THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY | 2006** | The Palme d'Or winner at Cannes 2006, Ken Loach's drama explores the tensions within an IRA guerrilla unit during the rebellion of 1920-'21. Two brothers (Cillian Murphy and Padraic Delaney), initially compatriots in a series of brazen ambushes, end up on opposing sides after the Republican leaders sign what some perceive as an unequal treaty with the British. The diminutive Murphy is powerfully understated as a conflicted medical student expected to commit acts of brutal violence; his patriotic speeches sparkle. Behind him is a cast of Loachian characters (teenage soldiers, farmhands, maids) who give voice to the director's socialist reading of history. Although unfairly anti-British (the Black and Tans were worse than Nazis), this is class-based filmmaking at its very best — a kind of rural counterpart to Neil Jordan's film *Michael Collins*, with timely lessons about terrorism, poverty, and the long shadows of empire. | 127m | Kendall Square + Embassy

Z

⊖⊖⊖ **ZODIAC | 2007** | David Fincher's adaptation of Robert Graysmith's account of the serial killer who stalked the San Francisco area in the '60s and '70s, taunting the police with coded notes and amassing a body count ranging from 5 to 37, clocks in at two and three-quarter hours. The slow passing of time is broken by perfunctory outbursts of violence. It doesn't so much bore as it frustrates. *San Francisco Chronicle* cartoonist Graysmith (Jake Gyllenhaal, shrunken into a sheepish nerd) spends three decades trying to identify the culprit. The official investigators fare little better. *Chronicle* crime reporter Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr. in a showy performance) ends up an alcoholic basket case living on a houseboat. San Francisco police inspector David Toschi (Mark Ruffalo as a duller Columbo) tries to pull the plug on his involvement before it's too late. Each, like the movie itself, circles around possible solutions to the mystery, returning to the same promising, elusive leads, the same dead ends, pondered and discussed in ugly offices or fly-blown diners and bars. So the film isn't so much about killing as it is about time. *Zodiac* touches on a mystery less dramatic than the average serial-killer movie but more disturbing — how time passes while we try to make sense of past time. | 165m | Boston Common + Fenway + Circle + suburbs

BY MITCH KRPATA

Games

1

DEF JAM: ICON

FOR XBOX 360 AND PLAYSTATION 3
RATED M FOR MATURE
PUBLISHED BY ELECTRONIC ARTS
DEVELOPED BY EA CHICAGO

INSULTING Can the hip-hop veneer excuse the putrid gameplay?

Tone def

This *Icon* is just a con

Def Jam: Icon is a marketing memo disguised as a video game, a conceptual nightmare that collapses under the weight of brand names and ill-advised "synergy." The idea of a fighting game starring famous rappers was funny the first time, tiresome the next; now it seems a calculated insult. EA isn't even attempting to cloak its cynicism. Product placement is one thing, but *Def Jam: Icon* is nothing but ads: ads for shoes, ads for music, ads for the rappers themselves. And all that would be okay if the gameplay were remotely competent.

This game is so bad in so many ways that it's hard to know where to begin. Character movement isn't just sluggish — it often seems the fights are taking place underwater. The motion-capture process that gives each character realistic animations also hamstrings the combat mechanics. Head-to-head fighters should be hyper-responsive, allowing you to time your maneuvers down to the frame. Here, each move is displayed from beginning to end, which means far too much time spent not in control of the action.

The payoff to a fight is rarely worth it either. Each arena is supposed to be interactive, although the interactivity is limited to the two or three portions of each background that are exploding to the rhythm of whatever song is playing. It's ridiculous, like watching the bedlam that erupts in Pee-wee's Playhouse when somebody says the secret word. But since the hazardous environments are deadlier than any punch or kick, each fight is a race to see who can toss the other guy into more explosions. Also touted as a feature is the ability to set off any of the explosions by pantomiming a record scratch in mid air (using the right analog stick to represent the record album). There's a certain charm to the idea of telekinetic rappers, but after you've seen it once, you've seen it as much as you need to.

As boring as the combat is, what comes between bouts is downright stultifying. On paper, your user-created character travels the world, hobnobs with up-and-coming talent, and haggles with radio stations to play your artists' latest tracks. In practice, this means reading your e-mail. Between each fight, you arrive home to find an ever fuller inbox packed with messages from clients, businessmen, and lawyers. (Oh and you also hear from a gold-digging girlfriend whose shrewish demands include jewelry and trips to Europe.) If we're going to combine the brutality of street fighting with the thrills of receiving e-mail, how about a game where you can beat the snot out of the guys who send you dozens of spam messages a day with subject lines like "Increase your boner capacity!" I'd play that game.

HOT TIP
THE *DEF JAM: ICON* GAME DISC MAKES AN EXCELLENT COASTER FOR HOT *AND* COLD DRINKS.

It's fair to ask whether I'd find *Def Jam: Icon* more palatable if it took place in a musical world I'm more enamored of — especially since the game is aimed at rap fans first and gamers second. And the truth is that I wouldn't mind pitting Cat Power against Stephen Malkmus in *Matador: Icon*. The appeal is clear if you're a fan of the songs and the stars on display. Electronic Arts is selling the image. But does that excuse the putrid gameplay? No. Emphatically, no. It's not for me, but the hip-hop veneer isn't the problem. The problem is that *Def Jam: Icon* was conceived and executed by PR flacks instead of by video-game designers. I don't hate the player. I hate this game. ◉

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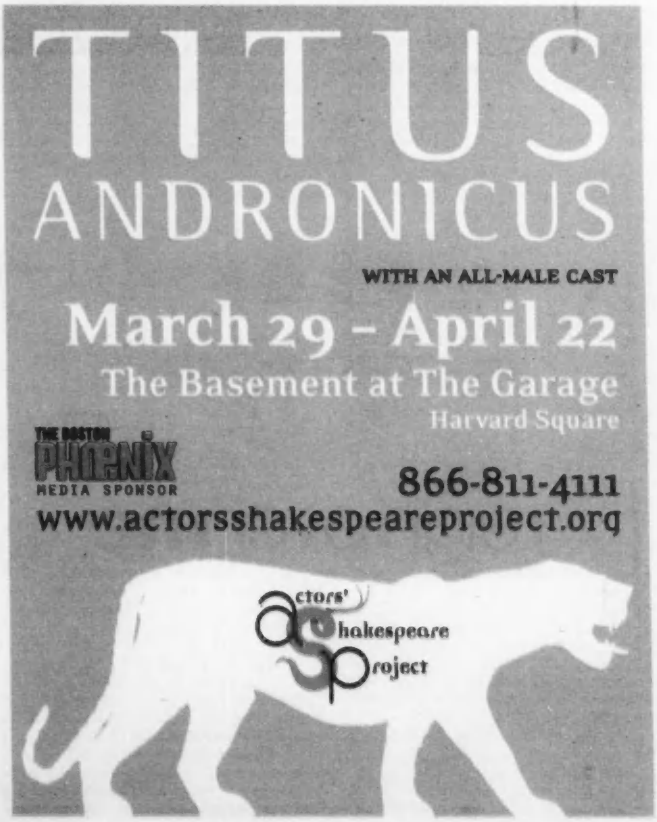


Theater

THERESA AT HOME Janet Kenney's play has a good heart, but not two and a half hours' worth.

Faith-based antics

Miss Witherspoon at the Lyric; *Theresa at Home* at BPT

BY CAROLYN CLAY

If you've ever wondered what would happen if you took Comparative Religion and crack cocaine simultaneously, the answer may be Christopher Durang's delirious post-mortem fantasy *Miss Witherspoon* (at the Lyric Stage Company of Boston through April 21). The protagonist of this witty 2005 fable, who's named Veronica but dubbed Miss Witherspoon by the keepers of Purgatory because she reminds them of "some negative Englishwoman in an Agatha Christie book," commits suicide in the 1990s, having suffered from depression, bad relationships, and a "disproportionate" reaction to Skylab, the falling space station that threatened to rain tons of detritus upon us. Once dead, she wishes to stick to it. A lapsed Christian perusing her Elysian options, she would prefer "Jewish heaven," a state likened to general anesthesia and apparently available to all nonbelievers in an afterlife. Unfortunately, Miss Witherspoon has landed in a Tibetan Buddhist version of Purgatory called the Bardo, where the brass — personified by a pleasant Indian woman in a sari — wants to send you back and back and back, like soldiers to Iraq. And that's not a farfetched simile since this screwball metaphysical and apocalyptic farce is indeed about our troubled world, the religion-fueled conflicts in the Middle East and impending climate catastrophe at the forefront.

But Durang is neither David Hare scrutinizing contemporary politics nor Al Gore with his pointer. His is a crazy, absurdist sensibility steeped in a Catholic upbringing and a charcoal-colored world view. Like Miss Witherspoon, he can appreciate the horror of being sentenced to life, not to mention multiple lives. But the writer's mind is a magnet for all things pop-cultural, so his loopy protest against earthly cruelty and intolerance incorporates not just the Tibetan Book of the Dead and Jesus Christ in the form of a saucy black woman but also *The Lord of the Rings* and *My Fair Lady* — all blenderized for maximum silliness and surprise. And at the Lyric, Durang's three-ring circus of joke and philosophy is being given a sharply executed, tongue-in-cheek staging with the superb Paula Plum as exasperated ringmaster. Scott Edmiston is at the helm, but some of the effects (which include a Plum Barbie reluctantly descending back toward Earth from an ozone peopled by floating babies), not to mention the deadpan presence of Larry Coen, bring to mind Ryan Landry.

Like most works by the author of *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* and *Betty's Summer Vacation*, *Miss Witherspoon* is arbitrary and whimsical almost to a fault; this undermines its message and its poignancy if not its amusement value. And it has an oddly optimistic ending, given Durang's merrily mordant musings on the scariness of the world. "If you can't fix it, laugh at it and hope to be well out of it," he seems to be saying — until an unlikely coalition with Miss Witherspoon as its pint-sized center sets out to fix it after all. But if Durang is really issuing an impassioned rallying cry, he's unlikely to be heard over the laughter as his heroine endures at least one hilariously horrifying childhood among drug-addicted trailer trash and commits at least one ingenious suicide (among several) before acknowledging that perhaps she *could* change the world if only she could stand it.

Some of Durang's demands, including Miss Witherspoon's multiple returns to grumpy infancy, are tricky, and they're well handled at the Lyric, where the spiritual cartoon is colored within the lines but much is made of the play's cataclysmic spectacle, particularly in Dewey Dellay's drolly dramatic sound design. Plum's reincarnation-buffeted Miss W. addresses the eternal verities with apt perplexity and sarcasm and can gurgle with the best of babies and wag her posterior with the canine elite. Coen and Marianna Bassham are funny as parents saccharine and sadistic. Mara Bhattacharya is both silky and pushy as the spiritual guide who tut-tuts Miss Witherspoon for her "murky, brown-tweed" karma. And if Jesus were really as cool as Jacqui Parker shaking her booty in a John Travolta suit, I might go back to church.

What's a sweet, pious girl in the age of Eisenhower to do when she suspects she's married the wrong guy? In Janet Kenney's *Theresa at Home*, which is getting its world-premiere production at Boston Playwrights' Theatre (through April 7), the title character has been swept off her feet by a mere mortal while doing time as a novice nun. But the transition hasn't turned out as swimmingly for the resolute newlywed as it did for Maria von Trapp. Too late, she thinks she should have become a bride of Christ: no messy sex or repetitive toaster receipt. Sam Shepard could at least have given Kenney a tip about what to do with all those toasters: as in *True West*, where the appliances are pilfered rather than gifted, create a comic symphony of popping toast!

Alas, Kenney's tender comedy, though non-realistic, boasts no such wacky surrealism. Its device is that as Theresa, newly returned from a Niagara Falls honeymoon, unpacks those little bread burners (along with innumerable religious statues), she's visited by everyone from her large Catholic family to the Welcome Wagon, but until the end these people never talk to one another. They speak in long, strained monologues, usually with the listener politely absented from the stage. The sex-addled Theresa is eager to unload her disillusionment, but it's clear she's the female father confessor of her clan, and the relatives are too busy showering her with *their* plans and complaints to sense she's in crisis. Since the cast of three is female, the male characters, including the eager but insensitive new spouse and the AWOL dad, appear via that deadly stage device, the one-sided phone conversation. To save time and perhaps to underline (along with Jon Savage's mostly white jumble of a set) the unreality of all this, Theresa is spared having to dial the wall-mounted rotary phone; she just picks it up and talks.

At last Mother Superior from the convent drops by to elucidate the mechanics of blessed reproduction, using what's at hand in the kitchen, which includes a rigid wooden spoon flanked by kiwis from the Welcome Wagon. (Had we heard of kiwis in 1956?) But it takes a previously invisible character — the heroine's elderly nana, largely dismissed as half-dead and parked beneath an afghan among the new bride's boxes — to offer, in the sweetest moment of the play, real counsel.

I suspect that Kenney, who is in her 40s, is trying to convey some of the problems that faced women, particularly Catholic women, of her mother's generation. She may also be addressing the confusions piled on women in the wake of World War II: a visiting neighbor is Rosie the Riveter incarnate. And the writer may be right to experiment with form so as not to create a creaky 1950s drama. She may even intend us to believe Theresa's visitors are all in her head, though I don't think so. But the point of this wandering piece seems to hit you over the head and elude you at the same time. And at two and a half hours, the play, which was developed in collaboration with the Village Theatre Project, is way too long for what it's up to.

Vincent Murphy's production provides some visual drollery, and Kenney comes up with a few striking images, as when Theresa describes missionary sex as like being squished beneath a hope chest. Theresa is winningly played by Stacy Fischer, but the play's other women, assayed by Julie Jirousek and Cheryl McMahon in various unflattering 1950s wear, are caricatures further hamstrung by all that talking to themselves. McMahon's Mother Superior is right out of *Nunsense*, and her mom is just a fuming matron. Jirousek's unlikely sisters are a proto-hippie in a bad wig who's headed off to Africa with her black boyfriend and a beleaguered baby machine with a surly mouth and a good heart. The play, too, has a good heart — but not good enough to pump its way through all the tedium and cliché. ◉

MISS WITHERSPOON If Christopher Durang is issuing an impassioned rallying cry here, he's unlikely to be heard over the laughter.

COMPILED BY CAROLYN CLAY

Play by Play

BACA CABARET CELEBRATION 2007 SHOWCASE | The Boston Association of Cabaret Artists taps its membership for a show that features Ellen F. Bagley, David Diamond, Leslie Holmes, Prudence Humphreys, Madge J. Kaplan, Gabriela Kassel, Phil Kassel, Jim Keating, Louise Koopman Vanaarsen, Ashley Lieberman, Kevin Luey, and Jim Della Penna. Michael Larson is on piano. | Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St, Harvard Square, Cambridge | 617.547.6789 x 1 | April 1 | Curtain 7 pm Sun | $12; $10 BACA members

BETTY'S SUMMER VACATION | Marcus (*The Onion Cellar*) Stern directs this American Repertory Theatre/Moscow Art Theatre Institute for Advanced Theatre Training production of Christopher Durang's Obie winner, a satire of "the tabloidization of American culture" rife with sex and mayhem, not to mention voices emanating from the ceiling. | Zero Arrow Theatre, Mass Ave + Arrow St, Cambridge | 617.547.8300 | Through March 31 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 + 7:30 pm Sat | $10; $5 ART subscribers, seniors, students

BIG APPLE CIRCUS: STEP RIGHT UP! | The New York–based one-ring circus returns for its annual engagement, this time with a show inspired by an "amusement resort by the sea, shimmering as if from a more Gilded Age." Paul Binder and Michael Christensen preside over a show whose highlights include International Clown Hall of Fame inductee Barry (Grandma) Lubin, aerial ballet from Russia, English equestrienne Yasmine Smart, Chinese acrobats, and "Johnny Peers's capering canines, the Muttville Comix." | City Hall Plaza, Boston | 617.931.ARTS | March 31–May 6 | Performance times vary | $15–$60

BLUE MAN GROUP | The Drama Desk Award–winning trio of cobalt-painted bald pates begin their delightful and deafening evening of anti–performance art beating drums that are also deep buckets of paint, so that sprays of color jump from the instruments like breaking surf and end by engulfing the spectators in tangles of toilet paper. | Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St, Boston | 617.426.6912 | Indefinitely | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Thurs | 7 pm Fri | 4 + 7 + 10 pm Sat | 2 + 5 pm Sun | $48–$58; $21.75 obstructed-view seating, available at the box office day of performance

BOYS OF WINTER | A staged reading of "a new anti-war play" featuring *60 Minutes II* vet Jimmy Tingle. It's a benefit for Veterans for Peace. | Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St, Davis Square, Somerville | 866.811.4111 | April 1 | Curtain 2 pm Sunday | $20; $18 seniors; $10 students

BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER | Lisa Peterson is at the helm of this Hartford Stage production of Luis Alfaro's play, which was dubbed "poignant, poetic, and funny throughout" by the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Two sisters, one of whom can't stop ballooning up, the other of whom can't get enough sex, are at the center of "a three-course comedy about how we hunger for love, sex, and Hostess Sno-Balls." (What's with the Sno-Balls, which are also the chemical-laden confection of choice in *'night, Mother*?) | Hartford Stage, 50 Church St, Hartford, Connecticut | 860.527.5151 | Through April 1 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun | $32–$57

CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE | Steve Rotolo directs this Molasses Tank Productions New England premiere of German playwright Manfred Karge's Brecht-influenced drama "about four men in a small town who starve off the despair of joblessness by re-enacting Amundsen's expedition to the South Pole . . . in an attic." | Charlestown Working Theater, 442 Bunker Hill St, Charlestown | 866.811.4111 | Through April 14 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sat | 2 pm Sun (April 8) | $18; $15 students

CROSSING BORDERS III: VOICES | Pilgrim Theatre Research and Performance Collaborative presents "a wild array of performance voices in four unique theater works." Here's the remaining line-up. Through April 1: *Songs from the Brink: A Cabaret* features chanteuse Belle Linda Halpern with Ben Roy on the piano and special guest Jeffrey Korn. April 4-7: Brad Kumholz directs Tannis Kowalchuk in *The Passion According to G.H.*, which is based on the novel by Brazilian writer Clarisse Lispector. | Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Black Box Theatre, 539 Tremont St, Boston | 617.933.8600 | Through April 7 | Curtain for *Songs from the Brink* 8 pm Thurs-Sat | 7 pm Sun | Curtain for *The Passion According to G.H.* 8 pm Wed-Sat + 2 pm Sat | $18.50–$23.50; $15.50 seniors, students; pay what you can from $5 Wed; Pilgrim Theatre benefit performance *Songs from the Brink* March 30 $30–$100, includes dessert reception

DANCING AT LUGHNASA | Greg Maraio directs this Way Theatre Artists presentation of Irish writer Brian Friel's Tony-winning memory play set in 1936, when five sisters, including an unwed mother, and their ex-missionary uncle cope with a man famine. | Hall A, Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, 527 Tremont St, Boston | 617.933.8600 | March 30–April 14 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 3 + 8 pm Sat | 3 pm Sun (April 1) | $25; student discount

DOC BROWN'S TRAVELING POETRY SHOW | "See poets perform their own work about Harleys, hockey, henna, old hardware stores, high-school cafeteria fights — and those are just the women! Homewreckers all. Plus a bunch of butch bards, birdmen, battlers, boygods, B-movie directors, and brash old men." A 90-minute weekly showcase of versifiers hawking their wares. | Lily Pad, 1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge | 617.388.1168 | Indefinitely | Curtain 7:30 pm Mon | $5

THE FANTASTICKS | Only a genius could rescue Tom Jones & Harvey Schmidt's long-running 1960 Off Broadway musical from schmaltz. But then, director Amanda Dehnert is one. The show about a young couple, their gardener fathers, and a "rapist" called El Gallo features the songs "Try To Remember" and "Soon It's Gonna Rain" and Trinity Rep regulars Rachael Warren, Stephen Thorne, and Joe Wilson Jr. | Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St, Providence, Rhode Island | 401.351.4242 | March 30–April 29 | Curtain 7 pm Tues-Wed + 2 pm Wed (April 11, 25) | 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 pm (April 7, 21) + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm (no performance April 1) + 7 pm (no performance April 15) Sun | $20–$60; limited number $20 each performance; $10 12th-row bench; pay what you can March 30

FAT PIG | SpeakEasy Stage Company presents the New England premiere of playwright/filmmaker Neil LaBute's bluntly titled 2004 black-comic fable built around a handsome and successful guy who falls for a vibrant but overweight woman, then caves to pressure from duplicitous co-workers who find her unacceptable as a romantic companion. The play is about our callow, image-obsessed society, of course. But it's also about human weakness, the admission of which takes its toll on a less than plus-sized soul. Paul Melone directs the stylish production, which is well-acted by Liliane Klein, James Ryen, Michael Daniel Anderson, and Laura Latreille — though the last two, as the co-workers from Hell, must deal with characters whose cravenness is exaggerated for shock value. | Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St, Boston | 617.933.8600 | Through April 7 | Curtain 7:30 pm Wed-Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 4 + 8 pm Sat | 3 pm Sun | $42–$46; $37–$41 seniors; $14 student rush, at the box office, one hour before curtain

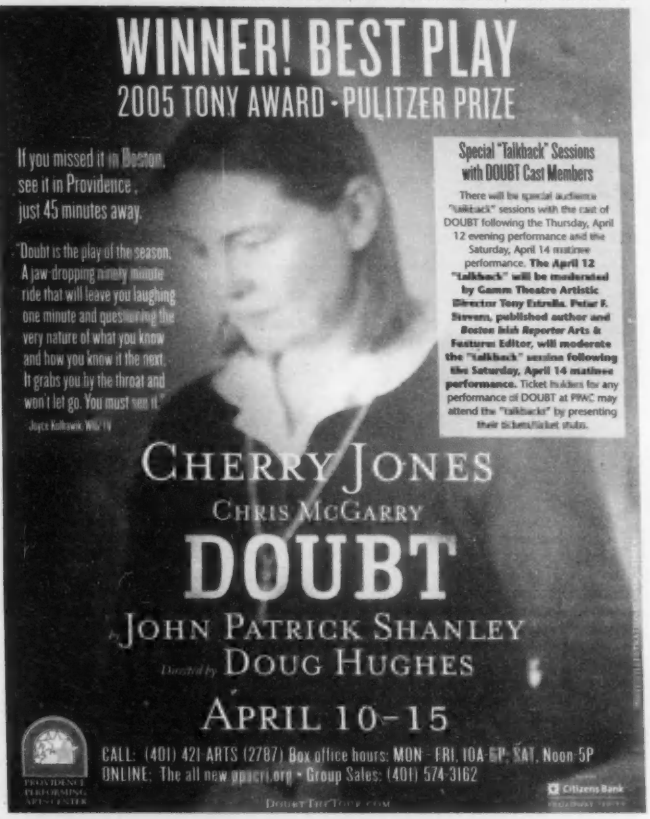
409 EDGECOMB AVENUE: THE HOUSE OF SUGAR HILL | Up You Mighty Race presents the Boston premiere of Katherine Butler Jones's play about Madame Stephanie St. Claire, "the luminous and controversial 'Numbers Queen' of Harlem, who lived among many of the elite black leaders and celebrities of the 1930s" at the title address. St. Claire, who was tried for attempted murder, counted among her neighbors W.E.B. DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, Walter White, and Paul Robeson. Akiba Abaka directs. | Boston Center for the Arts Plaza, 539 Tremont St, Boston | 617.933.8600 | April 5–21 | Curtain 8 pm Wed (April 18) | 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 4 + 8 pm Sat | 4 pm Sun | $30; $24 seniors; students; $20 April 5-6 previews; $55 April 7 8 pm benefit performance; pay what you can from $5 April 18

FRESH FRUIT'S GOING BAROQUE | Fresh Fruit Productions opens its seventh season with this "original comic musical variety show," a "hilarious series of cabaret spoofs lampooning every politically correct stereotype imaginable." The Fruits "take on ebonics, pregnant women, married gays, sex clubs, and anyone else who incites their razor-sharp wrath." | Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave, Boston | 617.816.8925 | Through April 7 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs-Sat | 2 pm Sun | $20; student discount Thurs, Sun

THE GECKO IN WINTER | This third and final installment of Cambridge Center for Adult Education's play-reading series features Hortensia Cerardo & Tony Carafone's new musical comedy *No Entry*, which is "based on the International Theological Commission's recent recommendations to do away with the concept of limbo," and pianist, songwriter, and librettist David Reiffel's *Glory*, "a musical exploration of God, doubt, and politics in our time." | Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St, Cambridge | 617.547.6789 x 1 | March 31 | Curtain 8 pm Sat | $10; $5 students, elders

GUYS AND DOLLS | Northeastern University's Department of Theatre presents the classical "musical fable of Broadway" with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, based on stories by Damon Runyon. Follow the antics of Nathan Detroit and the oldest floating crap game in New York. | Studio Theatre, Curry Student Center, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.373.2467 | Through March 31 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | $17

Continued on p 17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Joyce Kulhawik, WBUR
Special "Talkback" Sessions with DOUBT Cast Members
There will be special audience "talkback" sessions with the cast of DOUBT following the Thursday, April 12 evening performance and the Saturday, April 14 matinee performance. The April 12 "talkback" will be moderated by Gamm Theatre Artistic Director Tony Estrella. Peter F. Steven, published author and Boston Irish Reporter Arts & Features Editor, will moderate the "talkback" session following the Saturday, April 14 matinee performance. Ticket holders for any performance of DOUBT at PPAC may attend the "talkback" by presenting their ticket/ticket stubs.
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Play by Play

Continued from p 18

THE HARMONY OF LIFE WITH ANIMAL INSTINCTS: A CRITTER CABARET | A double bill of cabaret performances in celebration of "March Is Cabaret Month." Jay Iller and Elsa Powell perform *Harmony of Life* accompanied by pianist/composer Joe Della Penna. This one "combines contemporary tunes and classic cabaret standards to reflect on and highlight the challenging and beautiful passage of life." And [illegible]ger-songwriter B. Iris Tanner collaborates with pianist Doug Hammer in *Animal Instincts*, a program of songs "featuring dogs, cats, birds, and more exotic fauna" by Cole Porter, Stephen Schwartz, Steve Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens, Tom Lehrer, and others. | Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St, Cambridge | 617.547.6789 x 1 | March 30 | Curtain for *Harmony of Life* 7:30 pm Fri, curtain for *Animal Instincts* 8:30 pm Fri | $18; $15 BACA members, includes both shows

HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES | The F.U.D.G.E. Theatre Company takes on John Guare's eccentric comedy set in Queens on the day in 1965 that the pope visited New York. Bad songwriter Artie Shaughnessy has enough problems, juggling his insane wife, Bananas, and his mistress, Bunny Flingus, while trying to land a movie job, before his son goes AWOL from Fort Dix with the idea of blowing up His Holiness. Joe DeMita directs. At Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St, Boston | www.fudgetheatre.com | March 30–April 14 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs [April 5] | 8 pm [March 30] or 8:30 pm [April 13] Fri | 4:30 pm [April 14] or 8 pm [March 31] Sat | $10 in advance; $12 at the door

I HAVE BEFORE ME A REMARKABLE DOCUMENT GIVEN TO ME BY A YOUNG LADY FROM RWANDA | Stoneham Theatre artistic director Wesley Symes is at the helm of this area premiere of British writer Sonja Linden's 2003 drama, in which "Juliette, a young survivor of the Rwandan genocide, and Simon, a failing middle-aged British writer, form an unlikely relationship when she seeks out his help to write about her experience." The play was written as a response to Linden's encounters with young Rwandan refugees at the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, where she was a writer in residence from 1997 to 2004. | Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St, Stoneham | 781.279.2200 | April 5–22 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun [no performance April 8] | $16–$40; discounts April 5–7 matinee previews

INVINCIBLE SUMMER | New York performance artist Mike Daisey — whom the *Seattle Times* dubs "a brainy, manic hoot, a cross between Noam Chomsky and Jack Black" — brings his monologue, the hit of this year's Under the Radar Festival, to town. Set in the summer of 2001, it chronicles "the last glorious summer before everything changed," invoking a "dazzling" vision of the performer's Brooklyn neighborhood "before and after one terrible day, setting an intensely personal story of a family in crisis against the backdrop of massive social upheaval." | Zero Arrow Theatre, Mass Ave + Arrow St, Cambridge | 617.547.8600 | April 4–29 | Curtain 7:30 pm Wed-Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm [no performance April 8] + 7:30 pm Sun | $38–$50; senior discounts; $10 @ $15 at noon, day of performance | Also presented by Yale Repertory Theatre at New Theater, 1156 Chapel St, New Haven, Connecticut | 203.432.1234 | Through March 31 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sat | $25; $12 students with ID

JOEY AND MARIA'S COMEDY WEDDING | "One wedding that's had an unbelievable reception," the Italianate, audience-interactive nuptials are back. | Tremont Playhouse in the Tremont Hotel, 275 Tremont St, Boston | Indefinitely | 800.944.JOEY | Curtain 7:30 pm Sat | $55 includes dinner catered by Italian Express

THE LAST FIVE YEARS | Blue Spruce Theatre presents Tony Award winner (for *Parade*) Jason Robert Brown's two-person musical in which a former couple — an up-and-coming writer and an aspiring actress — chronicle the life and death of their relationship, one moving from start to finish, the other from finish to start. Jesse Strachman directs, with musical direction by Michael Kimuts. | Black Box Theatre at the Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St, Watertown | 617.923.8487 | April 5–15 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun | $22; $18 seniors, students

MEMORY HOUSE | TheatreZone presents the area premiere of Kathleen Tolan's play, which the *New York Times* calls "a captivating emotional ballet that is also a moving demonstration of the strenuous work that goes into good mothering." A pie gets baked in real time on stage as a mother and her Russian-born adopted daughter duke it out. No word on who gets to eat the pie. | Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St, Chelsea | 617.887.2336 | Through April 29 | Curtain 8 pm Fri-Sat | 3 pm Sun [April 15, 29] | $15 in advance; $18 at the door

MISS WITHERSPOON | Scott Edmiston directs fellow Elliot Norton Award winner Paula Plum in the New England premiere of Christopher Durang's comedy. | Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St, Boston | 617.585.5678 | Through April 21 | Curtain 2 pm [April 18] + 7:30 pm Wed | 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 4 + 8 pm Sat | 3 pm Sun | $23–$48 | Carolyn Clay's review page 16

PERSEPHONE | Nicholas Martin is at the helm of this Huntington Theatre Company world premiere of an intriguing play by Noah (*Mr. Marmalade*) Haidle. | Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St, Boston | 617.266.0800 | March 30–May 6 | Curtain 7:30 pm Tues-Thurs + 2 pm Wed [April 4, 18 + May 2] | 8 pm Fri | 2 pm [no performance March 31] + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm [no performance April 1] + 7 pm [April 1, 22, 29] Sun | $50–$52; $5 senior discount; $15 student rush + back-row seats | Liza Weisstuch's preview above right

RESPECT, A MUSICAL JOURNEY | Former Vanderbilt University professor Dorothy Marcic is the power behind this Cliffs Notes of musical feminism, a revue bringing together some four dozen female-associated pop oldies, from "I Will Survive" and "I Am Woman" to "Piece of My Heart" and "These Boots Are Made for Walking" — all of them well sung by Aimee Collier, Katresha M. Castro, and Tiana Cheechia. Unfortunately, Marcic is not content to make the point that women have sung a lot of great songs (the sappy 1982 Charlene hit "I've Never Been to Me" notwithstanding). She hews a perfectly good evening of cabaret to an on-stage narration (by Kathy St. George) that combines the author's personal history with the social history of American women since 1900, with the civil-rights movement thrown in for good measure. | Stuart Street Playhouse, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St, Boston | 800.447.7400 | Indefinitely | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Fri + 2 pm Wed [second + fourth week of the month] | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm + 6 pm [first + third week of the month] Sun | $45; $40.50 seniors with ID; $22.50 students with ID 30 minutes prior to curtain

SAMUEL BECKETT CENTENARY | Clark University hosts a week-long series of programs centering on the Nobel-winning author of *Waiting for Godot*. The centerpiece is a production of the writer's black-comic masterpiece, *Endgame*, a collaboration of Clark with Foothills Theatre directed by Clark Theatre Arts professor Raymund Munro. Monday April 2 at 7:30 pm: Thomas Munro, author of *Care of the Soul*, gives a talk on "ritual, dream, and archetypal memory in Beckett's theater"; it's preceded by a short Beckett work. | Razzo Hall, Traina Center for the Arts, 92 Downing St, Worcester | 508.793.7356 | Free | Tuesday April 3 at 7:30 pm: Professor Redmond O'Hanlon of the National University of Ireland in Dublin presents "Beckett . . . Music, Silence, and the End of Representation"; it's followed by a short Beckett work. | Razzo Hall, Traina Center for the Arts, 92 Downing St, Worcester | 508.793.7356 | Free | April 4–7: Clark University and Foothills Theatre present *Endgame*. | Foothills Theatre, Courtyard off Commercial St, adjacent to Worcester Common Outlets, Worcester | 508.754.4018 | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Sat | $20

SHAY DUFFIN AS BRENDAN BEHAN: CONFESSIONS OF AN IRISH REBEL | Shay Duffin moves inexorably toward the 1000th performance of this one-man show, which he also wrote. | Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St, Somerville | 617.933.8600 | Through March 31 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs-Fri | 3 + 7:30 pm Sat | $25–$35; 10 percent discount seniors; 50 percent discount students with ID

SHEAR MADNESS | The dramaris personae of the audience-participation whodunit (which is now the longest-running non-musical in American theater history, having run 26 years in Boston) continue to comb Newbury Street for the murderer of a classical pianist who lived over the unisex hair salon where the show is set. | Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton St, Boston | 617.426.5225 | Indefinitely | Curtain 8 pm Tues-Fri | 6 + 9 pm Sat | 3 pm + 7 pm Sun | $40

SIX ROUNDS/SIX LESSONS | Emmy Award winner Lois Roach is at the helm of this Company One world-premiere production of John ADEkoje's "tragicomic hip-hop concerto" centered on a young African-American man named Ace, who is murdered just as he is carving a decent life for himself. Since Ace is a boxer, the play is set in and around a boxing ring where Ace himself, the embittered older brother who blames him for the six years he spent in jail, their absent alcoholic father, Ace's feisty sister, and his white soulmate all spar with their disappointment and grief while hopping around in time to tell a story of paternal failure and young people struggling against street violence and the cycle of black history. Although ADEkoje's forays into poetic language are cliché'd, the play's unusual structure, which includes an ebullient DJ spinning a sort of soundtrack to the characters' lives, helps to make a sadly familiar story new, and Roach doesn't let all the metaphor get in the way of it. There are good performances, too, by the non-Equity cast, especially by Jason Bowen as the resentful brother and Keith Mascoll as the DJ/referee. | Boston Center for the Arts Plaza, 539 Tremont St, Boston | 617.933.8600 | Through March 31 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 4 + 8 pm Sat | $25–$30; $18–$25 seniors; $15 students Sat matinee + Sun

SMOKE AND MIRRORS: THE SHORT STORIES OF NEIL GAIMAN | Andy Hicks adapted and directs this Zero Point Productions theater piece based on Neil (*Mirrormask*) Gaiman's short stories; the show "explores the horrors and wonders that lie behind the curtain of everyday life." | Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 866.811.4111 | Through March 30 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Fri | $15

SYNCOPATION | Merrimack Repertory Theatre presents Allen Knee's play set in 1911 in Manhattan, where two immigrant blue-collar workers "who are chasing the American Dream" risk everything "for their chance to dance." Henry Ribelow, who dreams of becoming a famous ballroom dancer, places an ad for a partner, and Anna, against her better judgment and her family's wishes, answers. "The tight steps and syncopated rhythms in each dance-filled scene draw them closer together into an unlikely romance." Knee is also a screenwriter whose work includes *Finding Neverland*. | Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St, Lowell | 978.654.4MRT | Through April 15 | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Fri | 4:30 + 8:30 pm Sat | 2 pm + 7 pm [no evening performance April 15] Sun | $25–$55; 20 percent discount seniors; $15 students

THERESA AT HOME | Boston Playwrights' Theatre, celebrating its 25th anniversary, presents Janet Kenney's play, with Vincent Murphy directing. | Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm Ave, Boston | 866.811.4111 | Through April 7 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri-Sat | 2 pm Sun | $25; $20 seniors; $20 students | Carolyn Clay's review page 18

TITUS ANDRONICUS | Actors' Shakespeare Project presents the Bard's best bloodbath in a production directed by David R. Gammons and featuring an all-male cast led by Robert Walsh in the title role and John Kuntz as Tamora, queen of the Goths. Look for rape, mutilation, and mayhem. And watch out for what's in the piecrust. | Basement at the Garage, Garage Mall, 38 JFK St, Cambridge | 866.811.4111 | Through April 22 | Curtain 7:30 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 + 7:30 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun | $40; $33 seniors, students; $15 student rush; $30 March 29–30 previews

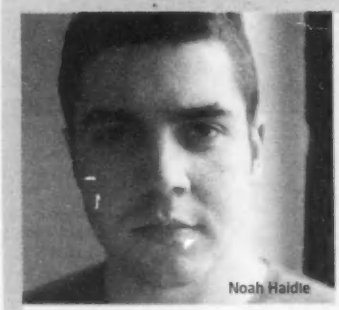
2007 NEW FEST | Joe Antoun is at the helm of this Emerson Stage production of the winners of the college's annual Bad Parker playwriting contest. There is a talkback after the Saturday matinee. | Semel Theater, Tufte Performance & Production Center, 10 Boylston Place, Boston | 617.824.8369 | Through March 31 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | $14; $8 Emerson community

WELL | Obie winner Lisa (*2.5 Minute Ride*) Kron reprises her Tony-nominated performance as herself in this Huntington Theatre Company staging of her ingenious and unusually warm and funny exercise in meta-theater. It's a "multi-character exploration of issues of health and illness both in an individual and in a community" or "a solo show with other people in it," depending on which of on-stage character Kron's explanations you wish to buy. And you shouldn't necessarily buy either, since Kron presents herself as an unreliable narrator against whom her fellow performers, including the woman playing her mother, rebel like Pirandello's six characters in search of an author. Mary Pat Gleason plays Ann Kron, the reluctant focus of Lisa Kron's examination of healing both personal and communal, with an irresistible frankness and guilelessness, offering a narrative that does not always mesh with her performer daughter's as the two, abetted by four other actors, tell a story of how allergy-beached social activist Ann healed a Michigan neighborhood undergoing integration but could not heal herself, whereas Lisa escaped allergies and her mother, moving to New York and *choosing* health. The point is that we create very different narratives from the same material, but it's made in a way that's artful and original. | Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.266.0800 | Through April 8 | Curtain 7:30 pm Tues-Thurs + 2 pm Wed | 8 pm Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun | $44–$75; $5 senior discount; $15 student rush, back-row seats

WHITE PEOPLE | New Repertory Theatre concludes the first season of its Downstage @ New Rep series of alternative performance in a small black-box theater with J.T. Rogers's innocuously titled powder keg of a theater piece, three interwoven monologues by non-redneck Caucasians that reveal the racism endemic in American society, particularly when backs are pushed to the wall. The characters include a liberal New York college instructor with a conflicted attitude toward a bright black student; a smug lawyer transplanted from NYC to St. Louis in search of homogeneity and safety for his family; and a Southern ex-prom queen who has felt her "possibility" slip away, leaving her with money problems, an unsatisfying marriage, and a child with a rare form of epilepsy. Diego Arciniegas directs on an effective set by J. Michael Griggs that allows the stories to interweave, turning the monologues into more of a play. There are good performances by Robert Kropf as the earnest teacher trying to make sense of history and Stephen Russell as the lawyer who thinks he's an expert on the "rules" — proper uniform, exacting language — until a family crisis knocks the stodgy pinions out from under him. And Georgia Lyman is terrific as the dethroned prom queen clawing for her piece of the pie. | Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St, Watertown | 617.923.8487 | Through April 1 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs | 8:30 pm Fri | 4:30 + 8:30 pm Sat | 3 pm Sun | $25; $20 seniors, New Rep subscribers; $10 students

DEMETER'S DAUGHTER

NOAH HAIDLE KEEPS MUM ABOUT *PERSEPHONE*



Noah Haidle

This preview was almost never written. I was sitting in a South End coffee shop with Noah Haidle after a rehearsal of *Persephone* and he made a quip about cancer. A gulp of coffee went down the wrong way and got trapped in a rising bubble of laughter, and I thought it was the end. He munched on salt-and-vinegar potato chips and waited for my spasm to subside.

Haidle's deadpan sarcasm has an effect on people, in life as in his plays. But to hear him tell it, that's not his intention. He says what he needs to say, he explains, and if people react, so be it. At 28, he considers it "amazing" that his career as a playwright has lasted three years. "I don't have any underlying motive in anything I write. I think a play is like a math equation: you set up a problem and you solve it. There's no 'agenda.' Nothing I have to say about anything is very interesting. My last objective in the world is to be provocative."

Claims of an antiseptic approach aren't what you'd expect from a writer whose breakout play, *Mr. Marmalade*, is about a four-year-old girl with an abusive businessman as an imaginary friend. In *Persephone*, which gets its world premiere this Friday courtesy of the Huntington Theatre Company after being read at last spring's Breaking Ground Festival, the title character is a statue. We meet this representation of the goddess Demeter during the Renaissance, as she's being created by a Venetian sculptor. Flash forward to today, when she stands in an American park, getting eroded by acid rain and pigeon shit as she bears witness to encounters both humdrum and horrific.

Haidle isn't particularly interested in talking about the work, except to say that the idea emerged one day when he was in Bryant Park and noticed a statue of Goethe. "I thought I'd be a little depressed just watching the kids go up and down all day." But he's either the most nonchalant working playwright alive or his own best publicist. By not revealing specifics, he piques your curiosity.

So how does he respond to the angry letters he's received about past plays? Or the laudatory ones? They're "gratifying," he says. But that gratification is a mere by-product of his job, which is to solve a problem, tell a story, and not be boring. His interest in philosophy seems to figure into this calculation; it was his major at Princeton. But his background does not. Haidle hails from Grand Rapids, Michigan, which he considers plenty boring. "Biography," he declares, "has no pertinence to anything I do."

—Liza Weisstuch

PERSEPHONE **| Huntington Theatre Company | Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, 527 Tremont St, Boston | March 30–May 6 | $50–$52; $15 student rush + back-row seats | 617.266.0800 or www.huntingtontheatre.org**

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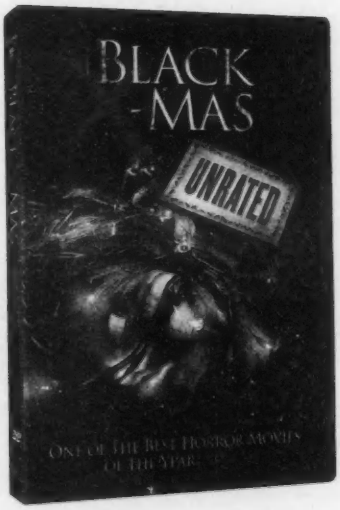

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_BY GREG COOK

'KAREN FINLEY: NATION BUILDING'

HURET AND SPECTOR GALLERY | EMERSON COLLEGE, 10 BOYLSTON PLACE (SIXTH FLOOR), BOSTON | THROUGH APRIL 18

'IT'S ALIVE! A LABORATORY OF BIOTECH ART'

MONTSERRAT COLLEGE OF ART | 23 ESSEX ST, BEVERLY | THROUGH APRIL 7

'PERSONAL COMPUTER'

SECOND GALLERY, 516 EAST 2ND ST, BOSTON | THROUGH APRIL 15

Karen Finley sat at the edge of the stage of Emerson College's Cutler Majestic Theatre last week and spoke about a woman who got off on war: "During the Gulf War, she glued herself to CNN . . . pressed her wet cunt to the screen . . ."

In Finley's monologue, the character picks up Vietnam vets and brings them home to watch Vietnam films with her, aroused by their bad memories. "And it turned her on to no end," Finley recited, "because in feeling the man's pain and vulnerability, her own life made some goddamn sense, her femininity, her womanness, because she was with a man who would die for her."

It was a shot across the bow from one of America's most notorious art provocateurs. The New Yorker rocketed to national attention when her monologues — a potpourri of pathos, sex, lefty feminist politics, and smearing food on her naked self — landed her smack in the middle of the Culture Wars. She was about to win a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1990 when conservatives attacked the government agency and her, getting the grant veto'd. She and three other NEA recipients whose work had been declared "indecent" sued for reinstatement; initially they won, but in 1998 the Supreme Court ruled against them.

Finley's one-night Boston performance on March 19 and a related exhibition at Emerson's Huret and Spector Gallery up through April 18 show where she's gone since. It's a dull place.

In her ink drawings *The Dreams of Laura Bush* (2006–present), she imagines the first lady dreaming of Jodie Foster rounding up Iraqi insurgents. Other episodes: "Saddam's last request was to finger Laura Bush"; George Bush allowing James Brown to be cloned despite his opposition to cloning (he "said he was a clone of his father . . . and that is why he was against cloning"), and "Cheney and James Baker tried to wear the same pair of boots. I didn't tell them that the boots were mine and not George's."

Elsewhere Finley focuses on Condoleezza Rice. A couple of pieces address the Ku Klux Klan's notorious bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963. Rice grew up there, and she knew some of the girls who were killed in the blast. *Dressed To Kill* (2006), an oil painting of ladies' boots, refers to Rice's shopping trip to New York in September 2005 while New Orleans drowned. Another piece depicts Rice's eyes dropping from the belly of a stealth bomber.

Deathwatch (2007) turns doodles of Saddam Hussein's hanging into wallpaper. *Nation Building* (2007) is a web of nooses hanging from the gallery ceiling. *Business As Usual* (2007) is two computers printing out lists of Iraqi and American dead of the Iraq war. The unending tally is a sad memorial — but Finley's outrage and despair feel prefab. What always charged her work was the way she linked politics with the strange, untamed, uncomfortable desires lurking inside our pop culture. But four years into the War in Iraq, her critiques aren't shocking, they're old news. Besides, she's a lousy drawer — these pieces feel like shoddy studies to be more fully realized later. (The Laura Bush dream drawings relate to a piece by the same name that she performed at Emerson on March 19; last year she published *George and Martha*, a graphic-novel satire about a tryst between George W. and Martha Stewart.) Her critiques are safe and shallow, just clowning, name calling, and adolescent caricatures. She doesn't engage the ideas or the policies of her targets.

The Laura Bush piece reminds me of American Repertory Theatre's staged reading of Tony Kushner's *Only We Who Guard the Mystery Will Be Unhappy* in 2004. Both works portray Laura Bush as a dope, but they also imagine her as the guilty conscience inside the White House, the one Bushie troubled by the administration's disasters and its callousness. It's an understandable desire, and a useful dramatic strategy, but why should our top stand-by-your-man conservative lady not be as confident of the righteousness of the administration's actions as anyone else in the White House?

The Culture Wars, meanwhile, have moved on to stem cells, cloning, and biotechnology — the subjects of "It's Alive!" at Montserrat College of Art. From Bostonians Jennifer Hall and Blyth Hazen we have the sculpture *Acupuncture for Temporal Fruit*, a robot that jabs needles into a shriveling tomato under a bell jar; the pace picks up as you move in for a closer look. Hunter O'Reilly of Chicago presents Petri dishes filled with glow-in-the-dark bacteria. Brown butterflies by Bostonian Brian Burkhardt cling to a corner of the gallery. I gather they're intended as a warning about the potential use of bio-engineered critters for surveillance, but I'm not sure how we're supposed to connect the dots based on just the sculptures.

NATION BUILDING Finley's outrage and despair feel prefab.

These are mostly one-liner illustrations of warnings about bio-tech, complaints we were familiar with before we walked in. The exceptions are two installations by Brian Knep, one of the most exciting artists in Boston right now. In *Drift* (2004), digitally animated bubbles drift across five squares painted on the gallery wall. They morph as they flow from one square to the next — circular bubbles becoming long bubbles becoming big blobs becoming spaghetti-like strands becoming round blobs again. In *Flower (Revealed)* (2005), an electronic pattern — something between zebra stripes and leopard spots — is projected onto a low circular platform on the floor. Step on it and a watching camera creates a "wound" where you stood. Then spots radiate and bubble up around and into this gap, like something spawning in a sci-fi thriller.

Knep's designs seem alive. They evoke the feeling of nervousness, but also our wonder at our ever more technological world. And they're fun to look at as well. His stuff reminds me of the energy around the video art Tony Oursler was making when he taught at MassArt in the early '90s. Knep seems on the cusp of his own big breakthrough.

The virtual world is the subject of Internet-based artworks in "Personal Computer" at Second Gallery. In New Yorker John Michael Boling's *Ebay Asteroids* (2006), buttons and graphics from the eBay Web site jitter diagonally across the screen (in this case projected on the gallery wall) like objects in the old video game *Asteroids*. He reworks Google's homepage in *Lord of the Flies* (2006) so that a swarm of arrows drift like schooling fish up toward the Google logo as the dreamy themesong from the '90s television series *Twin Peaks* plays.

Mark Callahan of Georgia makes *Internet Soul Portraits* by stripping the identifying text and logos from popular Web pages — Yahoo, Google, MSN, eBay, MapQuest, MySpace. The pages become familiar-feeling but strangely anonymous diagrams with shopping-cart icons floating here and there. New Yorker Charles Brokoski's *The MySpace Biennale* (2006) turns bits of design from MySpace into patterns. Each pattern has its own page — and they're all linked like a MySpace social network.

Like Aaron Siskind in his photo abstractions, these guys foreground the junk in our landscape — in this case the Internet — that we usually ignore. It's not the most compelling-looking art, but it leads me to wax philosophical about how we interface with the Web, about all the computer detritus that we take for granted. ◉

Art

GALLERIES

Admission to the following galleries is free, unless otherwise noted. In addition to the hours listed here, many galleries are open by appointment. Galleries are in Boston, except where indicated otherwise. Galleries with photo exhibitions are listed under Photography.

NEWBURY STREET/ BACK BAY

ACME FINE ART | 617.585.9551 | 38 Newbury St, #4, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through April 28: "Figuratively Speaking"
ARDEN GALLERY | 617.247.0610 | 129 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Through March 31: Stephen Dinsmore: "New Still Lifes"
L'ATTITUDE GALLERY | 617.927.4400 | 218 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through March 31: "Chase Away Your Winter Blues" | Cynthia Packard
BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY | 617.262.4490 | 10 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5:30 pm | Through April 25: Frank Egloff: "Rethought"
CHILDS GALLERY | 617.266.1108 | 169 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 9 am–6 pm; Mon and Sat 10 am–5 pm | Through May 5: "Bryson Burroughs: Legends and Legacy" | "The Wood Cut and Wood Engraving, 15th-20th Century"
GALLERY NAGA | 617.267.9060 | 67 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm | March 30-April 28: George Nick: New Paintings | Reception March 30: 6–8 pm
INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY | 617.375.0076 | 205 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–6 pm | April 1-May 28: "Objects of Desire: Product Poster Masterpieces"
JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY | 617.437.1518 | 130 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–6 pm | March 29-April 21: José Gonçalves: Outro Tempo | March 29: 6–8 pm
JUDY ANN GOLDMAN FINE ART | 617.424.8468 | 14 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through April 14: "Absolute Abstraction"
JUST AFRICA GALLERY | 617.536.1648 | 201 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Ongoing: Calligraphy and Sunni Painting
KIDDER SMITH GALLERY | 617.424.6300 | 131 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Through March 31: Robert Mars: "Gas, Food, Lodging" | April 4-28: Michael Mew: "Antics of a Fragmented Mind"
LANOUE FINE ART | 617.262.4400 | 160 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through April 15: Marc Civitarese
MARTHA RICHARDSON FINE ART | 617.266.3321 | 38 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5 pm; Sat: 11 am–5 pm | Ongoing: "20th Century Still Lifes"
MARTIN LAWRENCE GALLERIES | 617.360.4800 | 77 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–9 pm; Sun 11 am–7 pm | Ongoing: Robert Deyber
MERCURY GALLERY | 617.859.0054 | 8 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm | Through April 28: Oliver Balf, Carmen Jabaloyes, and Miranda Thomas
NEWBURY FINE ARTS | 617.536.0210 | 29 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through April 6: "The Art of Dr. Seuss"
NIELSEN GALLERY | 617.266.4835 | 179 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm | Through March 31: Gregory Gillespie: "Larger Than Life" | Laurel Hughs: "4 Paintings"
PEPPER GALLERY | 617.236.4497 | 38 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5:30 pm; Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through April 28: Daphne Confar
PUCKER GALLERY | 617.267.9473 | 171 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | March 31–April 22: "Beyond Time: New Works by Robert Eshoo" | Reception March 31: 3-6 pm
RICHARDSON-CLARKE GALLERY | 617.266.3321 | 38 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5 pm; Sat 11 am–5 pm | Ongoing: "American & European 19th & 20th Century Paintings & Drawings"
ST. GEORGE GALLERY | 617.450.0321 | 245 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | April 1-30: "Cuatro" | Reception April 12: 6–8 pm
SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS | 617.266.1810 | 175 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through April 22: "Timeless Vessels"
THOMAS KINKADE NEWBURY STREET GALLERY | 866.639.2879 | 221 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–8 pm; Sun noon–6 pm | Features more than 100 limited edition canvas lithographs by Thomas Kinkade
HOWARD YEZERSKI GALLERY | 617.262.0550 | 14 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm | Through April 3: Laurel Sparks: "Christmas in July" | Arnold Trachtman: "Of Our Time"

SOUTH END

ALLSTON SKIRT GALLERY | 617.482.3652 | 65 Thayer St, Boston | Wed-Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through March 31: Kristen Stoltmann: "Rough Bush" | Matthew Higgs: " Christopher Knowles & B. Wurtz"
ARS LIBRI | 617.357.4212 | 500 Harrison Ave, Boston | Mon-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Permanent collection features rare and scholarly books in the fine arts | Through April 4: Andy Cross: "The Greener Side of the Law"
BERENBERG GALLERY | 617.536.0800 | 4 Clarendon St, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–6 pm | Through May 5: "Beyond the Surface: Mixed Materials and Collage"
BERNARD TOALE GALLERY | 617.482.2477 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | Tues-Sat 10:30 am–5:30 pm | Through March 31: David Ording: "After" | Ambreen Butt: "Cirque du Monde"
BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY | 617.482.7781 | 486 Harrison Ave, Boston | Tues-Sat noon–6 pm | Through April 14: Lorey Bonante: "wink" | Peter Decamp Haines: "Abstraction"
BROMFIELD GALLERY | 617.451.3605 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | Wed-Sat noon–5 pm | Through March 31: Kathy Snow Stratton: "Interstices" | Amy Furman: New Work | April 4-28: Kathy A. Halamka: "over some rainbow" | Debra Giller: "Twilight Rhythms"
KINGSTON GALLERY | 617.423.4113 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | Tues-Sat noon–5 pm | Through March 31: Sophia Ainslie: "Crawlers 6" | April 3-28: Luanne E. Witkowski: "sleepless"
LOCCO RITORO GALLERY | 617.875.3284 | 450 Harrison Ave, Suite 37, Boston | Tues-Sat 11:30 am–5 pm | Through April 28: "Liz Shepherd: "I Don't Know the Details" | Mary O'Malley: "ultra-beauty" | Wade Aaron: "Subtractive"
OHT GALLERY | 617.423.1677 | 450 Harrison Ave, 1st floor, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Through March 31: "Follies" | April 5-28: "An Orchid in the Land of Technology"
OMA | 617.335.8736 | 450 Harrison Ave, Suite 4122a, Boston | Call for hours | Through March 30: "12 x 12 x 12"
RHYS GALLERY | 617.357.7497 | 471 Harrison Ave, Boston | Wed-Sun 11 am–6 pm | Through April 24: Shaun El C. Leonardo and Mark Shoening
SOPRAFINA GALLERY | 617.728.0770 | 73 Thayer St, Boston | Wed-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Through March 31: "Prints Show"
SPACE OTHER | 617.451.3500 | 63 Wareham St, Boston | Wed-Sat: noon–5 pm | Through March 31: "Artists' Books: Transgression/Excess"
STUDIO 209 | 617.670.1771 | 46 Waltham St, Boston | Through March 31: Gerry Shermet | Barbara Dahill

DOWNTOWN

CASA DE LA CULTURA | 617.927.1707 | 85 W. Newton St, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | Through April 26: Pablo Friedmann
CLOUD PLACE | 617.262.2949 | 647 Boylston St, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | Through April 30: "Visual Art Curators' MySpace Exhibition"
PORT POINT ARTS COMMUNITY GALLERY | 617.423.4299 | 300 Summer St, Boston | Mon-Wed, Fri 9 am–3:30 pm; Thurs 9 am–9 pm | Through April 13: "Cunplay"
KEIKO: FINE JAPANESE HANDCRAFT | 617.725.2888 | 121 Charles St, Boston | Call for hours | Through April 22: Tanaka Kazuhiko: "Lifescape: Miniature Sculpture"

OTHER BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS

artSPACE@16 | 781.321.8058 | 16 Princeton Rd, Malden | Jan 11 + 25; Feb 1 + 15 5–8 pm | Through April 21: "4-SOLO"
KAJI ASO GALLERY | 617.247.1719 | 40 Saint Stephen St, Boston | Tues 7–9 pm; Sat 3–5 pm | Through April 28: Kaji Aso: "Endless Journey"
PARADISE LOUNGE | 617.562.8814 | 967 Commonwealth Ave, Boston | Mon-Sun 5 pm-1 am | Through April 7: "Dig Art: Best Covers of 2006"
SECOND GALLERY | 617.566.1022 | 516 East Second St, South Boston | Wed-Sat noon–6 pm | Through April 15: "Personal Computer"

CAMBRIDGE/ SOMERVILLE/ WATERTOWN

ART INTERACTIVE | 617.498.0100 | 130 Bishop Allen Dr, Cambridge | Sat-Sun noon–6 pm | Through May 13: Camille Utterback: "Animated Gestures"
BAAK GALLERY | 617.354.0407 | 35A Brattle St, Cambridge | Mon-Sat 10:30 am–8 pm; Sun 1-6 pm | Through April 11: Arthur Hardigg: "Works on Paper"
BRICKBOTTOM GALLERY | 617.776.3410 | 2 Fitchburg St, Somerville | Thurs-Sat noon–5 pm | March 30-May 6: "The Green Line" | Reception April 1: 4-6 pm
CAMBRIDGE ARTISTS COOPERATIVE | 617.868.4434 | 59A Church St, Cambridge | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Thurs 10 am–8 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | March 29-April 29: "Book Arts Show" | Reception March 29: 5:30-7:30 pm
CAMBRIDGE CITY HALL | 617.349.4000 | 795 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Mon 8:30 am–8 pm; Tues-Thurs 8:30 am–5 pm; Fri 8:30 am–noon | Through March 30: Adelaide Goetz: "Coast"
CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY | City Hall Annex | 617.349.4380 | 344 Broadway, Cambridge | Mon-Wed, Fri 8:30 am–5 pm; Thurs 8:30 am–8 pm | Through March 30: John Powell: "fragments"
MOBILIA GALLERY | 617.876.2109 | 358 Huron Ave, Cambridge | Tues-Fri 11 am–6 pm; Sat 10 am–5 pm | Through April 28: Mariko Kusumoto: "Metal Box Sculptures" | Kyoko Okubo: "Scattered Pieces, Paper Sculptures" | Reception March 31: 2-5 pm
NAVE GALLERY | 617.625.4823 | Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse Blvd, Somerville | Fri 5-8 pm; Sat 1-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through April 15: "Happy Birthday, Renee Sélavy"
NEW SCHOOL OF MUSIC GALLERY | 617.492.8105 | 25 Lowell St, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 9:30 am–2 pm | Through April 30: Dean James Laabs
OUT OF THE BLUE GALLERY | 617.354.5287 | 106 Prospect St, Cambridge | Daily 9 am–8 pm | Ongoing: Charles J. Terzeolo, II and Deborah M. Priestly | Iana Sophia
PIERRE MENARD GALLERY | 617.868.2033 | 10 Arrow St, Cambridge | Wed-Sun 11 am–7 pm | Through April 15: Hiroyuki Hamada: "A Decade of Work"
38 CAMERON GALLERY | 617.492.4091 | 38 Cameron Ave, Cambridge | Tues-Wed noon–5 pm | Through April 26: Marcie Lemke | Martin R. Anderson | Wendy Klemperer
THREE COLUMNS GALLERY | 617.495.4826 | 10 Cowperthwaite St, Cambridge | Call for hours | Through April 2: "Before the Mountain: The Illusion of Reality Rob Reepe"
WASHINGTON STREET ART CENTER | 617.623.5315 | 321 Washington St, Somerville | Sat noon–4 pm | Through March 31: Lorie Reilly: "A Naturalist's Alphabet: Glass Mosaics of Fruits, Flowers, and Fauna"

BROOKLINE/ NEWTON

NEW ART CENTER IN NEWTON | 617.964.3424 | 61 Washington Park, Newtonville | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through May 20: "The Visions & Voices of Children's Book Illustrators"
NEWTON FREE LIBRARY | 617.796.1360 | 330 Homer St, Newton | Mon-Thurs 9 am–9 pm; Fri 9 am–6 pm; Sat 9 am–5 pm | Through March 29: Leonard Ragouzeos: "Big Drawings: Ink on Paper" | Suanne Scalise: "Vessels" | April 4-29: Karen Frostig: "Ancestral Conversations"

SUBURBS: SOUTH

CUSTOM ART AND FRAMING GALLERY | 781.762.3300 | 679 Washington St, Norwood | Mon 10 am–4 pm; Tues-Fri 10 am–7 pm; Sat 10 am–4 pm | Ongoing: Kevin Brown | Diane Scotti | Anna Weller | Yael Kolbech | Jed Hickson | Catherine Kenney | Judy Hazilla | Kerry Hawkins
SOUTH SHORE ART CENTER | 781.383.2787 | 119 Ripley Rd, Cohasset | Mon-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | Through April 8: "Young Artists for Global Awareness: The Children of Zhigansk, Siberia" | Anne Belson, Nancy Howell, Margaret McWethy, Dianne Panarelli Miller, and Mike Sleeper | Valerie Forte Vitali | Joanne Manning

SUBURBS: NORTH

13FOREST GALLERY | 781.396.0092 | 13 Forest St, Medford | Mon, Tues-Wed, Fri 11 am–6 pm; Sat 1-5 pm | Through April 12: "Shine: The Mosaic Art of Ariel Finelt Shoemaker"
CARY MEMORIAL LIBRARY | 781.862.6288 | Pierce Gallery | 1874 Mass Ave, Lexington | Mon-Thurs 9 am–9 pm; Fri-Sat 9-6 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through March 31: "WomenWatch: A Passage to Hope"
ESSEX ART CENTER | 978.685.2343 | 56 Island St, Lawrence | Mon-Fri 10 am–6 pm | Through April 20: Julie Bernson and Mary Guerrero: "The Rebozo: A Traditional Mexican Women's Garment" | Tory Fair: "Ready, Set, Bloom"
LYNNARTS | 781.598.5244 | 25 Exchange St, Lynn | Mon-Fri 10 am–3 pm | Through April 20: "Art As Process: A Show for Process Artists" | "Metamorphosis: The Work of Dick Buckley"
MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY | 781.396.9032 | Royall House Slave Quarters | 15 George St, Medford | Sat-Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7; $5 students, seniors | Ongoing: "From Africa to Medford: The Untold Story of the Royall House Slaves"
SPRINGSTEP | 781.395.0402 | 98 George P. Hassett Dr, Medford | Call for hours | Through May 1: "Footprints: Dance Shoes and the Stories They Tell"

SUBURBS: WEST

ALMA'S CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY | 617.926.2562 | 65 Main St, Watertown, MA | Tues-Sat noon–5 pm | Through April 30: Rafael Hambardzumyan: "The Eternal Traveler"
ARSENAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 617.923.0100 | 321 Arsenal St, Watertown, MA | Tues-Sat noon–5 pm | March 31-April 15: "Laugh: The Art of Humor"
BELMONT GALLERY OF ART | 617.484.5727 | 19 Moore St, Belmont | Tues, Thurs, Fri 8 am–4 pm | March 29-April 27: Josie Lawrence: "Peace and Solitude" | Reception March 29: 5:30-7:30 pm
BRUSH ART GALLERY | 978.459.7819 | 256 Market St, Lowell | Tues-Sat 11 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | Through April 1: "A Print is a Print is a Print"
CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK | 508.647.0097 | 14 Summer St, Natick | Tues-Sat, noon–6 pm; Sun 1-3 pm | Through April 30: Scott Smith and Lavonne Suwalski: "Local Color: Paintings of the New England Landscape"
GALLERY X | 508.992.2675 | 169 William St, New Bedford | Wed-Sun 11 am–3 pm; second Thurs of the month 5-9 pm | Through April 1: "High School Select"
NOBLE AND GREENOUGH SCHOOL ARTS CENTER | 781.320.7227 | Foster Gallery | 10 Campus Dr, Dedham | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | Ongoing: "New Landscapes"
WESTBORO GALLERY | 508.870.0110 | 8 W. Main St, Westborough | Wed-Sat 11 am–5 pm; Sat 11 am–2 pm | Through May 13: Joel Tro and Jeff Butler: "Woodicisms & Impossiburdities"

CAPE COD

COTUIT CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 508.428.0669 | 4404 Rte. 28, Cotuit | Mon-Fri 10 am–4 pm; Sat 10 am–2 pm | Through April 21: J. Vincent Diggs: "Exposed"
PROVINCETOWN ART ASSOCIATION AND MUSEUM | 508.487.1750 | 460 Commercial St, Provincetown | Daily noon–5 pm; Fri-Sat 8-10 pm | Suggested donation $5, $3 for seniors | Through April 15: Polly Burnell and Irene Lipton

MUSEUMS

AMERICAN TEXTILE HISTORY MUSEUM | 978.441.0400 | 491 Dutton St, Lowell | Thurs-Fri 9 am–4 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $4; $3 seniors, students, ages 6-16; free for ages 6 and under | The nation's largest collection of artifacts and documents relating to America's textile manufacture | Ongoing: "Textiles in America"
ARMENIAN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF AMERICA | 617.926.2562 | 65 Main St, Watertown | Thurs 6-9 pm; Fri-Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $2 | Through March 31: "Out of the Vault: Highlights from the Collection" | Ongoing: "The Armenian Genocide: In Memoriam"
ART COMPLEX MUSEUM | 781.934.6634 | 189 Alden St, Duxbury | Wed-Sun 1-4 pm | Free | Permanent collection features Shaker furniture, prints, American paintings, and Japanese art
BOSTON ATHENÆUM | 617.227.0270 | 10 1/2 Beacon St, Boston | Guided tours Tues and Thurs 3 pm | Mon 8:30 am–8 pm; Tues-Fri 8:30 am–5:30 pm; Sat 9 am–4 pm | Through July 13: "Acquired Tastes: 200 Years of Collecting for the Boston Athenaeum"
BOSTON BEER MUSEUM AND VISITORS' CENTER | 617.522.9080 | 30 Germania St, Jamaica Plain | Tours Thurs-Fri 2 pm; Sat noon, 1, 2 pm | Admission $2 | View two centuries of beer memorabilia and learn about the brewing process
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY | 617.536.5400 | Copley Square, Boston | Mon-Thurs 9 am–9 pm; Fri-Sat 9 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Art and architecture tours offered Mon 2:30 pm; Tues, Thurs 6 pm; Fri-Sat 11 am; Sun 2 pm
— **John Adams Library** | Through April 1: "John Adams Unbound"
BRIGHTON-ALLSTON HERITAGE MUSEUM | 617.635.6120 | 20 Chestnut Hill Ave, Brighton Center | Tues-Fri; second and fourth Sat of the month noon–4 pm | Through Dec 28: "Brighton Transformed" | Ongoing: "Bull Market"
CAPE COD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY | 800.896.3867 | 869 Rte 6A, Brewster | Tues-Sat 10am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm; Thurs 10 am–8 pm | Admission $8; $7 seniors; $3.50 children | Programs, walks, classes, and field schools on the museum's three nature trails through woodlands, salt marsh, unspoiled beach, and Cape Cod's largest herring run | Indoor exhibits represent the Cape's native surroundings, from reptiles and insects to shells, minerals, and fossils, and include both the Clarence Hay Library for natural history information and an on-site archaeology lab | Ongoing: "The Cape Takes Shape" | "What About Whales?" | Through April 29: "Provincetown: A Creative Colony"
CAPE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | 508.385.4477 | Cape Playhouse, Rte 6A, Dennis Village | Tues-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Thurs 10 am–8:30 pm; Sun 12–5 pm | Admission $7; free for ages 18 and under and on Sat before 1 pm | Permanent collection features works by Ross Moffett, Arthur Dehl, William Paxton, Arnold Geissbuhler, Oliver Newberry Chaffee, and Sig Purwin
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM | 617.426.6500 | 300 Congress St, Boston | Daily 10 am–5 pm; Fri 10 am–9 pm | Admission $9; $7 seniors, children 2-15; $2 for one-year-olds | Free parent-child activities include "ZOOMSci challenge" Fri 3-5 pm + Sat-Sun 2-4 pm, "Come Sing and Dance" Wed + Fri 11 am, "Explore and Discover Together" Wed 2 pm, and "New Balance Climb" | Ongoing: "AIRplay: The Wonders of Wind & the Inflatable Art of Jon Goldman," "Boats Afloat," featuring an 800-gallon channel tank; "Arthur's World," characters and settings from the PBS series; "Japanese House," a two-story house from Kyoto; "Bubbles"; and "Construction Zone!", a kid-sized indoor Big Dig-inspired construction site

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COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM | 617.727.9268 | 220 Morrissey Blvd, Columbia Point, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm; Sat 9 am–3 pm | Free admission | Ongoing: "Archaeology of the Central Artery: Highway to the Past"

DeCORDOVA MUSEUM | 781.259.8355 | 51 Sandy Pond Rd, Lincoln | Tues-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $9; $6 students, seniors, children

— **35-acre Sculpture Park** | Open daily dawn-dusk | Recent additions include "Trojan Piggybank," "Rooster Rings," "Nam June Paik: Requiem for the 20th Century," "Putto 4 over 4"

— **Arcade Gallery** | Through April 22: Stephen DiRado: "Jump"

— **Dewey Family Gallery** | Through Sept 16: "Approaches to Narrative"

— **Foster Gallery and Hallway Gallery** | Through April 22: "Big Bang! Abstract Painting for the 21st Century"

— **Museum School Gallery** | Through Fall 2007: "Approaches to Narrative"

— **Phyllis and Jerome Lyle Rappaport/Media Space Gallery** | Through April 22: Julie Miller: "Abstract Videos"

— **Roof Terrace** | Ongoing: Nina Levy: Headwing and Big Baby

EMILY DICKINSON MUSEUM | 413.542.8161 | 280 Main St, Amherst | Wed-Sat 10-5 pm; Sun 1- 5 pm | Guided tours: "Emily Dickinson's World" and "This Was a Poet"

ERIC CARLE MUSEUM OF PICTURE BOOK ART | 413.658.1100 | 125 West Bay Rd, Amherst | Tues-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $7; $5 students, seniors, teachers, ages 18 and under | Picture-book art from around the world

FITCHBURG ART MUSEUM | 978.345.4207 | 185 Elm St, Fitchburg | Tues-Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $7; $5 students, seniors; free for ages 12 and under | Through June 3: "Exploring with Pictures and Print: Children's Book Illustrations"

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY | 617.524.0128 | 95 Forest Hills Ave, Jamaica Plain | Daily 8 am–sundown | Free | Victorian landscape with 19th-century and contemporary sculpture path with work by Fern Cunningham, Kahlil Gibran, John Wilson, and others

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO | 617.541.LION | 1 Franklin Park Rd, Boston | Daily 10 am–4 pm | Admission $8.50; $4.50 ages 2-12, plus $1 for admission to Butterfly Landing | Home to more than 150 species of mostly endangered or threatened animals including snow leopards | "Giraffe Savannah"; "Kalahari Kingdom"; "Butterfly Landing"; "Tropical Forest"; "Australian Outback Trail"; and "Bongo Congo," with bongo antelope, zebras, ostrich, ibex, Arnold sheep, and vultures

FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM | 508.588.6000 | 455 Oak St, Brockton | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $8; $5 students, seniors; free for ages 12 and under | Permanent collection features more than 4000 pieces of 19th- and 20th-century American art and crafts | Through May 6: "RISD Routes" | "Drawing with Fire: The Class Sculpture of Alan Klein" | Carter Smith: "Shibori Treasures"

HARRISON GRAY OTIS HOUSE | 617.227.3956 | 141 Cambridge St, Boston | Wed-Sun 11 am–4:30 pm | Admission $8; $7 seniors; $2.50 children | Designed by Charles Bulfinch in 1796 and restored in the 1920s, the mansion provides insight into the social, business, and family life of the American elite in the New Republic | Guided Tours (all visitation is guided) of the house Wed-Sun 11 am–4 pm on the hour and half-hour

HERITAGE PLANTATION AMERICANA MUSEUMS AND GARDENS | 508.888.3300 | Pine and Grove Sts, Sandwich | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $9; $8 seniors; $4.50 for ages 6-18; free for ages 5 and under | Exhibits include "Seeking the Realization of a Dream: The Paintings of Alvan Fisher"; "A Gift from the Pottery: The Henry A. Street Collection of Children's Mugs"; "World War I, 1914-1918: The Last Century's War to End All Wars"; "Suburban America, 1930-1970"; plus the J.K. Lilly III Antique Automobile Museum and an exhibit of Cape Cod Baseball League memorabilia

HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES | 978.744.0991 | 54 Turner St, Salem | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $8; $7 seniors; $6 for ages 6-17; free for ages 5 and under | The inspiration for Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel is the oldest 17th-century mansion remaining in New England, with furniture and artifacts spanning those centuries, including Hawthorne memorabilia, plus Hawthorne's birthplace, a 19th-century counting house, period gardens, and a visitor center with interactive video, orientation programs, and garden café | Currently on view: "Digging Up the Past: 330 Years of Salem's History at the House of the Seven Gables"; "Images of the Seven Gables: Paintings, Prints, and Photographs of Salem's Most Illuminated Home"

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 617.266.5152 | 100 Northern Ave, Boston | Tues-Wed, Sat-Sun 10 am–5 pm; Thurs-Fri: 10 am–9 pm | Admission $12; $10 students, seniors; free for children under 12; free after 5 pm on "Target Free Thursday Nights" | Established in 1936 as the first non-collecting contemporary art institution in the US | Permanent collection of 21st-century art features sculpture, painting, video, photography, and drawing | Through April 29: "Super Vision" | Through March 2: Louise Bourgeois: "Bourgeois in Boston | Through July 8: Mitsuki Kawai: "Momentum 7" | Ongoing: "A First Look at the ICA Collection"

— **Sandra and Gerald Fineberg Art Wall** | Through Oct 28: Chiho Aoshima: "The Divine Gas"

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM | 617.566.1401 | 280 the Fenway, Boston | Tues-Sun 11 am–5 pm | Admission $12; $10 seniors; $5 students with ID; free for ages 18 and under | Built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, the museum houses more than 2500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works and highlights including works by Giotto, Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler | Free guided tours given Tues-Fri at 2:30 pm | Through May 6: "Sculpture & Memory: Works from the Gardner and by Luigi Ontani"

JACKSON HOMESTEAD | 617.552.7238 | 527 Washington St, Newton | Tues-Sat 11 am–5 pm; Sun 2-5 pm | Admission $5; $3 seniors, children | Home of abolitionist William Jackson, includes exhibits on Newton and regional history highlighting the community as an early railroad hub and the home itself as a stop on the Underground Railroad | Children's gallery features hands-on exhibits | Through Feb 2008: "Hyphenated-Origins: Going Beyond the Labels" | Ongoing: "Building and Living in 19th Century Newton"; "What Makes Community: Sense of Place in Chestnut Hill, Oak Hill & Thompsonville"; "The Jacksons' Contribution to Newton"; "Children's Gallery & Abolition Room"; "Dolls from Around the World"

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM | 617.514.1600 | Morrissey Blvd, Columbia Point, Boston | Daily 9 am–5 pm | Admission $10; $8 students, seniors, $7 for ages 13-17; free for ages 12 and under | Exhibits portraying the life, leadership, and legacy of President Kennedy through memorabilia, video presentations, and settings | Ongoing: "Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy"; "Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy: First Lady"; "John Glenn and the Space Race"; "The Cuban Missile Crisis"; "The Room v. Kennedy Presidential Race"; "The Struggle for Civil Rights"; "Mrs. Kennedy's Tour of the White House"; "The Kennedy Family;" "Jacqueline Kennedy Travels Abroad" | Through April 1: "Handmade and Heartfelt: Folk Art from the Collections of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library" | "Rose Kennedy: In Her Own Words" | Through Sept 21: "A Journey Home: John F. Kennedy and Ireland" | Ongoing: John Saltonstall and Al Webb Collections

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE | 617.566.7937 | 83 Beals St, Brookline | Wed-Sun 10 am–4:30 pm | Admission $3; free for ages 16 and under | President Kennedy [born in 1917] and his family lived in this restored nine-room house until 1927; the first home shared by the president's father and mother, Joseph P. and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, it re-creates the social and political beginnings of one of the world's most prominent families

LONGYEAR MUSEUM | 800.277.8943 | 1125 Boylston St, Rte 9, Brookline | Mon, Wed-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Sun 1-4 pm | Free admission | Exploring the life of Christian Science founder Mary Baker Eddy through artifacts, manuscripts, books, and the biographical history of early workers in the Christian Science Church *circa* 1910 | Located on eight acres including flower gardens, a fountain, pool, and statues | Ongoing: "Mary Baker Eddy: A Spiritual Journey"

LORING-GREENOUGH HOUSE | 617.524.3258 | 12 South St, Jamaica Plain | Open for tours Tues, Sat, 10 am–noon | Suggested donation $3 | A pre-Revolutionary house on the National Register of Historic Places decorated in period furnishings, costumes, and objets d'art

MASSACHUSETTS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 413.664.4481 | 87 Marshall St, North Adams | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10; $8 students; $4 for ages 6-16; free for ages 6 and under | Ongoing: "Joseph Beuys: Lightning with Stag in Its Claws"; "Natalie Jeremijenko: True Logic"; "Sound Art at MASS MoCA"; Carston Holler's "Amusement Park"; "It's Elementary!"

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | 617.267.9300 | 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | Sat-Sun 10 am–4:45 pm; Mon-Tues 10 am–4:45 pm; Wed-Fri 10 am–9:45 pm (only West Wing open Thurs-Fri after 5 pm) | Admission $25; $23 students with college ID, seniors; free for ages 17 and under during non-school hours | Mon-Fri: introductory walks through all collections 10:30 am, 3 pm | "Art of Asia Walks" 11 am | "Art of Europe Walks" 11:30 am | "Art of the American Walks" 1:30 pm | "Art of Egypt and the Classical World Walks" 2 pm | Introductory walk also offered Wed 6:15 pm, Sat-Sun 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm

— **Exhibitions:** Through May 6: "The Romance of Modernism: Paintings and Sculpture from the Scott M. Black Collection" | Through June 17: Michael Mazur: "The Art of the Print" | Through July 8: "Donatello to Ciambologna: Italian Renaissance Sculpture" | Through Aug 1: "Through Six Generations: The Weng Collection of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy" | Through Sept 2: "Material Journeys: Collecting African and Oceanic Art, 1945-2000" | Through Oct 8: "Women of Renown: Female Heroes and Villains in the Print: Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1797-1861)"

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE | 617.723.2500 | Science Park, Boston | Sat-Thurs 9 am–7 pm; Fri, 9 am–9 pm | Admission $16; $14 seniors; $13 ages 3-11 | Featuring the Theater of Electricity (indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily at noon and 2 pm and at Fri 7 pm) plus more than 600 hands-on exhibits | Through April 17: "Darwin" | Ongoing: "A Bird's World" | "Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic" | "Current Science & Technology Center" | "Journey into Amazing Caves" | "Natural Mysteries"; "Cahners ComputerPlace" | "The Virtual Fish Tank" | "The Light House: Beaming, Bouncing, and Bending Light" | "Messages" | "Science in the Park: Playing with Forces and Motion" | "Human Body Connection" | "The Computing Revolution" | "Weather-Wise" | "Robots & Us" | "Hurricane on the Bayou"

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION | 617.522.6547 | 1A2 Anderson Park, 15 Newton St, Brookline | Tues-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $5; $3 seniors, students, ages 6-16 | Exhibits focus on the automobile and its role in American society | Ongoing: "New England Paves the Way" | "L'automobile" — A Century of Innovation and Style — Celebrating the French Automobile Industry"

NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS | 617.442.8614 | 300 Walnut Ave, Roxbury | Tues-Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $4; $3 students, seniors | Ongoing: "Aspelta: A Nubian King's Burial Chamber"

NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM | 781.861.6559 | 33 Marrett Rd, Lexington | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Free admission | Open March 31: "Pets in America: The Story of Our Lives with Animals at Home" | Through April 22: "Handled With Care: The Function of Form in Shaker Craft" | Through Aug 12: "For Every Fighter a Woman Worker: World War I Posters"

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM | 617.973.5200 | Central Wharf, Boston | Mon-Thurs 9 am–6 pm; Fri-Sun 9 am–7 pm | Admission $13.50; $11.50 seniors, $7.50 for ages 3-11 | Through Oct 29: Daily whale watches cost $32.55; $26.25 children under 11 | Call 617.973.5281 for reservations | More than 70 exhibits featuring aquatic animals from Boston Harbor to the Amazon River plus the 200,000-gallon ocean tank with sharks, moray eels, 600-pound sea turtles, and hundreds of other Caribbean creatures | Now open: "Living Links: Choices for Survival" with baby sea turtles, poison arrow frogs, and rare tropical fish that shows how people affect aquatic life both positively and negatively around the world

NEWPORT ART MUSEUM & ART ASSOCIATION | 401.848.8200 | 76 Bellevue Ave, Newport, RI | Mon-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | March 31-June 17: Carol Fitzsimmons: "Growing Things" | March 31-May 27: Alan Metnick: "Selected Works, 1969-2006 | Reception March 30: 5:30-7:30 pm | Through April 29: "2007 Newport Annual: Members' Juried Exhibition"

NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM | 413.298.4100 | 9 Glendale Rd, Stockbridge | Mon., Fri., 10 am–4 pm; Sat-Sun, 10 am–5 pm | Admission $12; $7 students; free for ages 18 and under when accompanied by an adult | Rockwell's studio and the world's largest collection of his paintings | Through May 28: "Picturing Health: Norman Rockwell and the Art of Illustration" | Ongoing: "The Art of Norman Rockwell" | "Norman Rockwell's 323 Saturday Evening Post Covers"

OLD NORTH CHURCH | 617.523.6676 | 193 Salem St, Boston | Daily 9 am–5 pm | Admission $8; $5 for ages 13 and under | Built in 1723, Boston's oldest church continues as an active Episcopal Church with services every Sunday

OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE | 617.482.6439 | 310 Washington St, Boston | Daily 10 am–4 pm | Admission $5; $4 students, seniors; $1 children | Now a museum and historic site, the Meeting House was built in 1729 as a Puritan house of worship and served as the location for meetings of Colonial revolutionaries | Ongoing: "Voices of Protest"; "Behind the Scaffolding"; "If These Walls Could Speak"

OLD STATE HOUSE | 617.720.1713 | 206 Washington St, Boston | Daily 9 am–5 pm | Admission free in Jan for Mass residents | $5; $4 students, seniors; $1 for ages 6-18 | Ongoing exhibits detail the history of Boston during the Revolution, the history of firefighting, the John Hancock family, inns and taverns, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, plus a Boston reference library and photographic resource center at 15 State St | Ongoing: "Our Favorite Things"; "From Colony to Commonwealth"

ORCHARD HOUSE/HOME OF THE ALCOTTS | 978.369.4118 | 399 Lexington Rd, Concord | Mon-Fri 11 am–3 pm; Sat 10 am–4:30 pm; Sun 1-4:30 pm | Admission $8; $7 students, seniors; $5 for ages 6-17 | Home of the Alcotts and the site where Louisa May Alcott wrote *Little Women* in 1868 | Features personal objects and furnishings that belonged to the Alcott family, the Concord School of Philosophy, and historical programs and exhibitions | Guided "living history" tours

PAUL REVERE HOUSE | 617.523.2338 | 19 North Square, Boston | Tues-Sun, 9:30 am–4:15 pm | $3; $2.50 students, seniors; $1 children | Restored 17th-century house owned by Revere during the Revolutionary War | First door in the Pierce/Hichborn House, a Georgian brick building built *circa* 1711

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM | 978.745.9500 | East India Square, Liberty & Essex Sts, Salem | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $13; $11 seniors; $9 students; free for ages 16 and under | American art and architecture and Asian, Asian Export, Native American, African, Oceanic, Maritime, and Photography collections plus numerous parks and period gardens and 24 historic properties including Yin Yu Tang, a 200-year old house that is the only example of Chinese domestic architecture on display in the United States | Through April 30: "The Emperor Looks West" | Through June 3: "A Sense of Place: An Artist's Tribute to the Seven Continents" | Ongoing: "All of My Life: Contemporary Works by Native American Artists" | "Intersections: Native American Art in a New Light" ("Of Gods and Mortals: Traditional Art from India" | "Epic India: Paintings of M. F. Husain"

REVOLVING MUSEUM | 978.937.2787 | 22 Shattuck St, Lowell | Thurs-Sun noon–4 pm | Through March 31: "Merrimack Mural Project" | Through Dec 31: "Electrifying: The Art of Light and Illumination"

SKYWALK OBSERVATORY | 617.859.0648 | Prudential Building, 50th Floor, 800 Boylston St, Boston | Daily 10 am–10 pm | Ongoing: "Wings over Boston: Aerial Video Tour of the City"; "Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum"; "Ted Williams Exhibition"; "The Sights and Sounds of Boston"; "Famous Bostonians"; "Boston Map"

SPORTS MUSEUM OF NEW ENGLAND AT THE TD BANKNORTH GARDEN | 617.624.1234 | 150 Causeway St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $6; $4 seniors, ages 6-17; free for ages 6 and under | Boston sports history with exhibits dedicated to the Celtics, Bruins, and Boston Garden | Ongoing: "Ted Williams: An American Hero"

STERLING AND FRANCINE CLARK ART INSTITUTE | 413.458.2303 | 225 South St, Williamstown | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10; free for ages 18 and under | French Impressionist paintings including more than 30 by Renoir plus American works by Homer, Sargent, Cassatt, and Remington and extensive collections of prints, drawings, silver, and sculpture | Ongoing: "The Clark: Celebrating 50 Years of Art in Nature"

STONE PARK ZOO | 781.438.5100 | 149 Pond St, Stoneham | Daily 10 am–4 pm | Admission $6.50; ages 2-12 $3.50; free for ages 2 and under | Animal exhibits including a herd of bison, a colony of flamingoes, and spider monkeys | Ongoing: "Yukon Creek"; "Windows to the Wild"; "Treasures of Sierra Madre"; "Barnyard"; "Himalayan Highlands"

USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM | 617.426.1812 | Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Free admission | Ongoing: "Around the World in Old Ironsides," chronicling the *Constitution*'s diplomatic mission, and "A Look Below the Waterline: Preserving *Old Ironsides*," which explores past and current restorations of the boat

WADSWORTH ATHENEUM | 860.278.2670 | 600 Main St, Hartford, CT | Wed-Fri 11 am–5 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10; $8 seniors; $5 students; free for ages 12 and under | Collections of American and European paintings and sculpture as well as glass, silver, Wallace Nutting furniture, Meissen porcelain, and the J. Pierpont Morgan collection of American decorative arts | Through April 22: "Soul Food!" | Through Nov 30: "Picasso to Pop: Aspects of Modern Art" | Through Dec 9: "Faith and Fortune: Five Centuries of European Masterworks"

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM | 508.799.4406 | 55 Salisbury St, Worcester | Wed-Sun 11 am–5 pm; third Thurs of the month 11 am–8 pm; Sat 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10; $8 seniors, students; free for ages 17 and under; admission free Sat 10 am–noon | Extensive collection of Asian art in Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Islamic galleries | Etruscan ceramics from the fifth and sixth centuries | Works by John Singleton Copley, James Peale, Robert Fulton, and Edward Savage in the Marianne E. Cibson Gallery | Through June 17: "Mountain Harvests: Chinese Jades and Other Treasured Stones" | Ongoing: Alexander Ross: "Wall at WAM"

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM | 508.753.8278 | 30 Elm St, Worcester | Tues-Wed, Fri-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Thurs 10 am–8:30 pm | Admission $2 | children free | Collects, preserves, and interprets the history of Worcester in all subject areas and time periods | Salisbury Mansion is a historic house museum restored to the period of the 1830s

PHOTOGRAPHY

ART INSTITUTE OF BOSTON AT LESLEY UNIVERSITY | 617.585.6676 | 700 Beacon St, Boston | Mon-Sat 9 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through March 31: "Ink Wipe Roll Print"

STEPHEN 10 FINE ART GALLERY | 978.897.7006 | 10 Nason St, Maynard | Tues-Sat noon–5 pm | Through March 31: "Global Travel" | Through April 7: Photography Show

CAMBRIDGE MULTICULTURAL ARTS CENTER | 617.577.1400 | 41 Second St, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 10 am–8 pm; Fri 10 am–6 pm | Through April 21: Hector Hernández Jr. and Juan-Sí Gonzalez: "Love, Loss & Longing: The Impact of U.S. Travel Policy on Cuban-American Families" | Reception April 5: 6–8 pm | Through April 27: Rania Matar: "The Veil: Modesty, Fashion, Religious Devotion or Political Statement?" | Reception April 5: 6–8 pm

DeCORDOVA MUSEUM | 781.259.8355 | 51 Sandy Pond Rd, Lincoln | Tues-Sun 11 am–5 pm | Admission $6, $4 for seniors, students, and children | Ongoing: Charles "Teenie" Harris: "Social Studies: Documentary Photography"

— **Photograph Study Space** | Ongoing: "Documentary Photography"

FITCHBURG ART MUSEUM | 978.345.4207 | 185 Elm St, Fitchburg | Tues-Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $7; $5 students, seniors; free for ages 12 and under | Through June 3: Frank Gohlke: "A Photographic Essay of the Sudbury River" | "Ansel Adams in the East: Cruising the Inland Waterway"

FRENCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER | 617.912.0400 | 53 Marlborough St, Boston | Mon-Tues, Thurs: 9 am–6 pm; Wed 9 am–8 pm; Fr-Sat 9 am–5 pm | April 3-May 29: Jonathan Stark: "Realités et Rives de Paris" | Reception April 4: 6-7:30 pm

GALLERY ON THE PLAZA | 617.582.4442 | 10 Brookline Pl West, Brookline Village | Mon-Thurs 8:30 am–8 pm; Fri 8:30 am–5 pm; Sat 9 am–3 pm | Through April 21: "One" | Reception March 29: 6–8 pm

GASP | 617.731.2500 | 362 Boylston St, Brookline | Thurs-Sat 11 am–5 pm | March 30-May 5: "Convergence: Photo-Graphics" | Reception March 30: 5–8 pm

GRIFFIN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY | 781.729.1158 | 67 Shore Rd, Winchester | Tues-Thurs 11 am–5 pm; Fri 11 am–4 pm; Sat-Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $5; free for students, seniors; free admission for all on Thurs | Through April 15: Martin Schoeller: "Close Up" | Dave Anderson: "Rough Beauty"

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY | 617.495.3045 | 26 Oxford St | Mon-Sun 9 am–5 pm | Admission $9; $7 seniors; $6 students; free for ages 3 and under; free for Massachusetts residents Wed 3-5 pm and Sun 9 am–noon | Through April 23: Rik van Glintenkamp: "Echoes in the Ice: Collages of Polar Explorers"

HARVARD UNIVERSITY and RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE | Cambridge

— **Lamont Library** | 617.496.0845 | Harvard Yard near Mass Ave + Quincy St | Mon-Fri noon–9:45 pm; Sat 8 am–9:45 pm; Sun 8 am–midnight | Through June 30: "Harvard College 3rd Annual International Photo Contest Exhibition"

— **Harvard School of Education** | 13 Appian Way | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | April 2-20: Laura Wulf and Lora Brody: "Play Ball"

ROBERT KLEIN GALLERY | 617.267.7997 | 38 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5:30 pm; Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through April 28: Mark Cohen and Roger Ballen: "Chance + Circumstance"

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Art

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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | Cambridge

— **MIT Museum** | 617.253.4444 | 265 Mass Ave | Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | Admission $5, $2 for seniors, students, and ages 5-18 | Ongoing: "Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Doc Edgerton"

— **Compton Gallery** | 617.258.9206 | 77 Mass Ave | Mon-Fri 9:30 am-5 pm | Through Sept 30: "The Heart of MIT: Twenty Years of Photography by Donna Coveney"

MASSACHUSETTS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 413.664.4481 | 87 Marshall St, North Adams | Daily 10 am-5 pm | Admission $20; $8 students; $4 for ages 6-16; free for ages 6 and under | Through March 31: "A Historic Occasion: Artists Making History"

MONTSERRAT COLLEGE OF ART GALLERY | 978.922.8222 | 23 Essex St, Beverly | Mon-Thurs 10 am-6 pm; Fri 10 am-5 pm; Sat noon-5 pm | Through April 7: "It's Alive: A Laboratory of Biotech Art"

— **Carol Schlosberg Alumni Gallery** | Mon-Thurs 9 am-7 pm | Fri 9 am-5 pm | Sat noon-4 pm | Through April 10: Cathy McLaurin: "Ice Cream, No Regrets"

— **301 Cabot Street Studio** | Tues-Sat 11 am-2 pm | Through March 30: "The Decorated Human Antler"

NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM | 781.861.6559 | 33 Marrett Rd, Lexington | Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm | Sun noon-5 pm | Free admission | Ongoing: "To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community" | "American Family Treasures" | "Lexington Alarm'd"

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY | 617.353.0600 | 832 Comm Ave, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am-6 pm; Thurs until 8 pm; Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | $3; $2 students, seniors | March 30-May 6: "Picture Show"

PINE MANOR COLLEGE | Hess Gallery | 617.731.7157 | 400 Heath St, Chestnut Hill | Mon-Thurs 8:30 am-10 pm; Fri, 8:30 am-5 pm; Sat noon-4 pm; Sun 2-10 pm | Through April 23: Jim Eng: "Work in Collage and Mixed Mediums" | Reception March 29: 7-9 pm

ROLLY-MICHAUX GALLERY | 617.536.9898 | 290 Dartmouth St, Boston | Tues-Fri 11 am-4 pm; Sat 11 am-5:30 pm | March 30-May 5: Robert Castagna: "The Art of Mystery, Spain in its Season" | Reception April 6: 5-7 pm

STUDIO 209 | 617.670.1771 | 46 Waltham St, Boston | Through March 31: Jay Caffney and Andrew Miller: "South by Southwest: A Photographic Survey of Space, Place and Structure"

TUFTS UNIVERSITY | Art Gallery | 617.627.3518 | 40R Talbot Ave, Medford | Tues-Sun 11 am-5 pm; Thurs 11 am-8 pm | Through April 1: Edward Burtynsky: "The China Series" | "Altered States: Views of Transition in Recent Photography" | "Jun Yang": HERE: this is WE" | "Jun Yang and Soldier Woods"

WHEELOCK COLLEGE | Towne Art Gallery | 617.879.2219 | 180 the Riverway, Boston | Tues-Sat noon-5 pm | Through April 20: Bryce Vickmark: "About Face: A Story of Healing"

SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES

ART INSTITUTE OF BOSTON AT LESLEY UNIVERSITY | 617.585.6676 | | 700 Beacon St, Boston | Mon-Sat 9 am-6 pm; Sun noon-5 pm

— **Porter Exchange Gallery** | 1815 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Tues-Fri noon-8 pm; Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | 617.585.6656 | April 2-8: "People Considered" | Reception April 5: 6-8 pm

BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE | 617.262.5000 | 320 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Thurs 8:30 am-10:30 pm; Fri 8:30 am-9 pm; Sat 9 am-5 pm; Sun noon-7 pm

— **McCormick Gallery** | Mon-Thurs 8 am-10:30 pm; Fri 8 am-9 pm; Sat 9 am-5 pm; Sun noon-7 pm | Through April 15: "Beyond the Beret: The Spirit of Dean Arcangelo Cascieri"

BOSTON COLLEGE | McMullen Museum | 617.552.8100 | Chestnut Hill | Mon-Fri, 11 am-4 pm; Sat-Sun, noon-5 pm | Through July 22: "A New Key: Modern Belgian Art from the Simon Collection"

— **Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Library** | 617.552.4470 | Mon-Sat 11 am-4 pm | Ongoing: "Tip O'Neill Memorial Exhibit"

BOSTON UNIVERSITY | 617.353.3349

— **808Gallery at Boston University** | 617.358.0922 | 808 Comm Ave | Wed-Sun noon-6 pm | Through April 1: "North American Print Biennial" | "The Fifth Annual Arches Student Print Show"

— **Boston University Art Gallery** | 617.353.3329 | 855 Comm Ave | Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm | Sat-Sun 1-5 pm | Through April 1: "Sixty Years of North American Prints: Collecting from the Boston Printmakers"

— **Sherman Gallery** | 617.358.0295 | 775 Comm Ave | Tues-Fri 11 am-5 pm | Sat-Sun 1-5 pm | Through May 4: "Interface"

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY | Rose Art Museum | 781.736.3434 | 415 South St, Waltham | Tues-Sun noon-5 pm | Admission $3; free for ages 12 and under | Through April 1: "Rose Art: Works from the Permanent Collection" | "Paper Trail: Artists Explore Unseen Works on Paper from the Collection of the Rose Art Museum" | Clare Rojas: "Hope Springs Eternal"

— **Women's Studies Research Center** | 781.736.8102 | Through April 6: "Hannah Frank: A Jewish Artist in Glasgow"

EMERSON COLLEGE | 617.824.8540 | Little Building, 80 Boylston St, Boston | Call for hours

— **Huret and Spector Gallery** | 617.824.8329 | 10 Boylston Pl (sixth floor) | Mon-Fri 11 am-3:30 pm; Sat noon-5 pm | Through April 18: Karen Finley: "Nation Building"

HARVARD UNIVERSITY and RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE | Cambridge

— **Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University** | 617.524.1718 | 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain | Call for hours | Free admission | More than 6500 species of plants in a 265-acre botanical garden designed by Frederick Law Olmsted | April 1-June 30: Mary Long Graham: "The Nature of Healing"

— **Busch-Reisinger Museum** | 617.495.9400 | 32 Quincy St | Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7.50; $6 students, seniors; free for ages 18 and under; free on Sat 10 am-noon | Tours Mon-Fri 1 pm | Features Central and Northern European art, including late medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque sculpture, 16th-century painting, 18th-century porcelain, collection of 20th-century German works | Through June 10: "Multiple Strategies: Beuys, Maciunas, Fluxus" | March 30-Jan 6: "Paintings by Max Beckmann from the Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich" | Ongoing: "Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe"

— **Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts** | 617.495.3251 | 24 Quincy St | Mon-Sat 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun noon-11:30 pm | Through April 13: Hans Tutschku: "TELL ME! . . . a secret . . . " | Through April 13: "E-Flux Video Rental"

— **Fine Arts Library** | 617.496.0845 | 32 Quincy St | Mon-Thurs 9 am-10 pm; Fri 9 am-9 pm | Through May 31: "Bubbings in the Rubel Asiatic Research Collection"

— **Fogg Art Museum** | 617.495.9400 | 32 Quincy St | Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7.50; $6 for seniors and students; free for those under 18, free admission Sat 10 am-noon | Tours Mon-Fri 11 am | The decorative arts gallery includes 17th- and 18th-century British and American silver, furniture, and porcelain | The Maurice Wertheim Collection features Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works | Ongoing: "To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop" | "Rubens and His Collaborators" | "17th-Century Dutch and Flemish Painting" | "18th-Century European Ceramics and Paintings" | "American Art at Harvard" | "French Art of the 18th Century" | "Cian Lorenzo Bernini: Sketches in Clay" | "Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop" | "Investigating the Renaissance"

— **Harvard Museum of Natural History** | 617.495.3045 | Oxford + Everett Sts | Mon-Sun 9 am-5 pm | Admission $9; $7 seniors; $6 students; free for ages 3 and under; free for Massachusetts residents Wed 3-5 pm and Sun 9 am-noon | The "Ware Collection of Glass Models of Plants" includes more than 3000 glass flowers | The Mineralogical and Geological Museum's feature a 1642-pound amethyst geode | The Museum of Comparative Zoology covers species from the earliest fossil invertebrates and reptiles to fish and reptiles alive today | Exhibitions also include whale skeletons, the largest turtle shell ever found, the first Triceratops discovered, the Harvard mastodon, and a 42-foot-long Kronosaurus, the only complete and mounted model of the sea reptile in the country

— **Houghton Library** | 617.495.2509 | Harvard Yard near Mass Ave + Quincy Sts | Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm; Tues 9 am-8 pm; Sat 9 am-1 pm | Through April 24: "Public Poet, Private Man: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow at 200" | Through May 15: "Victorian Literature: Highlights from the Houghton Collection" | Through June 17: "Music & Mathematics"

— **Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology** | 617.496.1027 | 11 Divinity Ave | Through March 31: "A Noble Pursuit: The Duchess of Mecklenburg Collection from Iron Age Slovenia" | Through June 31: "The Moche of Ancient Peru: Media and Messages" | Through Dec 31: "From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection" | Ongoing: "Arthropods: Creatures that Rule" | "The Glass Flowers" | "Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science" | "Climate Change: Our Global Experiment"

— **Pusey Library** | 617.495.2509 | Harvard Yard near Mass Ave + Quincy St | Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm | Through May 1007: "Theodore Roosevelt: Imagery for a Presidency"

— **Arthur M. Sackler Museum** | 617.495.9400 | 485 Broadway | Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7.50; $6 students, seniors; free for ages 18 and under; free admission Sat 10 am-noon | Docent tours Mon-Fri 2 pm | The second and fourth floors feature a permanent collection of works from Oriental, Islamic, Roman, and other ancient cultures | Through April 8: "Cultivating Virtue: Botanical Motifs and Symbols in East Asian Art" | Through May 7: "Frank Stella 1958" | Through June 10: "Classified Documents: The Social Museum of Harvard University, 1903-1931" | Ongoing: "Overlapping Realms: Arts of the Islamic World and India, 900-1931" | "Teaching with Objects: The Curatorial Legacy of David Gordon Mitten"

— **Semitic Museum** | 617.495.4631 | 6 Divinity Ave | Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm; Sun 1-4 pm | Ongoing: "Nuzi and the Hurrians: Fragments from a Forgotten Past" | "Ancient Cyprus: The Cesnola Collection" | "The Sphinx and the Pyramids: 100 Years of American Archaeology at Giza" | "The Houses of Ancient Israel: Domestic, Royal, Divine"

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART | 617.232.1555 | Tower Bldg, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston | Mon-Fri 10 am-10 pm; Sat 11 am-10 pm | Through April 7: "All School Show"

— **Student Life Gallery** | Kennedy Bldg, 621 Huntington Ave (second floor) | Mon-Fri 9 am-8 pm | Ongoing: "Under Pressure"

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | Cambridge

— **MIT Museum** | 617.253.4444 | 265 Mass Ave | Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm | Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | Admission $5; $2 students, seniors | Through June 30: "Singular Beauty: Simple Microscopes from the Giordano Collection" | Through Sept 2: "A System of Coordinates: Invention and Sustainability" | Ongoing: "Shipbuilding in Massachusetts 100 Years Ago" | "Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers" | "Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT" | "Holography: The Light Fantastic" | "Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson" | "Thinkapalooza"

— **Dean's Gallery** | 617.253.9458 | 50 Memorial Dr | Daily 9-5 pm | Through June 1: "Selections from the Collection"

— **Hart Nautical Galleries** | 617.253.5492 | 55 Mass Ave | Daily 9 am-8 pm | Through June 30: "Professor George Owen: Eminent Designer and Yachtsman" | Ongoing: "Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design" | "Deep Frontiers: Ocean Engineering at MIT"

— **List Visual Arts Center** | 617.253.4680 | 20 Ames St | Daily noon-6 pm | Through April 8: "Sensorium: Embodied Experience, Technology, and Contemporary Art: Part II" | Nabila Inshaid: "Flying Carpet"

— **Media Test Wall** | 617.253.4400 | Whitaker Bldg No. 56 | Open round the clock | Through April 13: Kata Ezawa: "Three Works"

— **Strobe Alley** | 617.253.4629 | 77 Mass Ave | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Never Stop Learning: The Life and Legacy of Harold Edgerton"

— **Wolk Gallery** | 617.253.7334 | Room 7-338, 77 Mass Ave | Through April 13: "The Architecture of Yung Ho Chang/Atelier FCJZ"

— **Women's Studies Program** | 617.253.8844 | Room 14E-316, 77 Mass Ave | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Women at MIT"

NEWBURY COLLEGE | 617.730.7070 | 150 Fisher Ave, Brookline | Mon-Thurs 8 am-9 pm; Fri 8 am-5 pm; Sat 8 am-4 pm | Through April 27: Sarah Dolitzky: "Unfurling: Dimensions of Time and Narrative"

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY | 617.373.2249 | Boston

— **Ryder Hall Atrium** | 143 Forsyth St | Daily 7 am-11 pm | Ongoing: "Recent Urban Design: Work in Boston"

PHILLIPS ACADEMY | 978.749.4015 | Rte 28 & Chapel Ave, Andover

— **Addison Gallery** | Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Permanent collection includes works by Winslow Homer, Maud Morgan, Allan Crite, and Justin Kirchoff | Through April 8: "Mix and Match: A Conversation Between Paintings and Works on Paper" | Through April 15: Kara Walker: "Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War"

— **Gelb Gallery** | Mon-Sat 9 am-9 pm; Sun noon-9 pm | Through April 30: William Flynn: "Armed Chair" | Reception March 31: 3-5 pm

REGIS COLLEGE | Carney Gallery | 781.768.8367 | 235 Wellesley St, Weston | Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm

— **Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History** | Thurs-Sun noon-5 pm | Admission $5; $3 students, seniors; free for ages 16 and under | Exhibits include rare Lindbergh material from 1927 transatlantic flight, US and Boston airmail history, and international airmail including the world's first airmail flight in India in 1911, rotating topical exhibits on stamps

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN | Museum of Art | 401.454.6500 | 224 Benefit St, Providence, RI | Tues-Sun 10 am-5 pm | Admission $8; $5 seniors; $3 students, ages 5-18 | Through April 22: "Re-Viewing the Twentieth Century" | Through May 20: Peter Campus | "divide" | Through May 27: "The Evolution of Japanese Printmaking" | Through June 10: "Feathers, Flowers, Talons, and Fangs: Power and Serenity in Japanese Nature Prints" | Through June 17: "Nuance in Nature: Birds and Flowers in Japanese Textiles" | Ongoing: "Rethinking the Romans: New Views of Ancient Sculpture" | "The birds and the bees and the flowers and the trees: Flora and Fauna in Ceramic Design and Decoration" | "The Japanese Tradition in Studio Pottery" | Wedgwood from the Museum's Collection | "19th-Century Painting, Sculpture, and Decorative Art from the Permanent Collection"

SIMMONS COLLEGE | Trustman Art Gallery | 617.521.2268 | 300 the Fenway, Boston | Mon-Fri 10 am-4:30 pm | Through April 20: "Hot and Cold: Abstract Prints from Center Street Studio"

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL | Adams Gallery | 617.573.8508 | 120 Tremont St, Boston | Daily 10 am-6 pm | Through June 1: "The Faces and Places of Suffolk University"

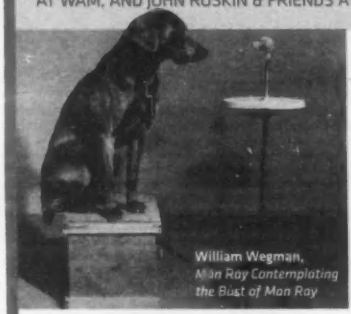
TUFTS UNIVERSITY | Art Gallery | 617.627.3518 | 40R Talbot Ave, Medford | Tues-Sun 11 am-5 pm; Thurs 11 am-8 pm | Ongoing: Christine Rinklin: "Nuvolomondo"

— **New Media Wall** | "Jun Yang and Soldier Woods"

UMASS-BOSTON | Harbor Art Gallery | 617.287.7988 | 100 Morrissey Blvd, Boston | Mon-Fri 10 am-6 pm | Through April 13: "Reclaiming the Flag" | Reception March 29: 6-8 pm

VERY FUNNEY

WILLIAM WEGMAN AT THE ADDISON, ED RUSCHA AND RAYMOND PETTIBON AT WAM, AND JOHN RUSKIN & FRIENDS AT THE FOGG



William Wegman, *Man Ray Contemplating the Bust of Man Ray*

You can find a series of early William Wegman videos on YouTube; identified as having been compiled in 1972, they are grainy black-and-white mini-musings on watching and being watched, featuring two, and then one, of the artist's very focused pet Weimaraners. The one is, I presume, the famous Man Ray, the deadpan dog and unflappable comic genius who would become Wegman's most famous subject. In the segment "Used Car Salesman," a shaggy-haired young Wegman sits in a swivel chair struggling to balance the 80-pound dog on his lap while trying to persuade viewers to buy a "quality" new or used car from him. The mild absurdity of the scene is typical of the tone Wegman strikes in his early experiments with the then brand new media of video, experiments that resulted in pioneering work that included visual puns, disconnects between image and language, and gentle jabs at viewers and their expectations. This work paved the way for Wegman's large-scale color Polaroid portraits of Man Ray from the late 1970s and early 1980s, and his later work with successor Weimaraner Fay Wray, who became known and loved by audiences of *Sesame Street*.

"WILLIAM WEGMAN: FUNNEY/STRANGE," guest-curated by Trevor Fairbrother and opening at the Addison Gallery of American Art April 7, includes more than 200 of the artist's engaging paintings, drawings, videos, photographs, collages, and artist books. Wegman has moved easily among various media throughout his career; this is a great chance to go beyond the dogs and experience the many odd and subversive aspects of his vision.

Ed Ruscha and Raymond Pettibon both have a fascinating way with words. Two recent collaborative projects by these respected contemporary artists will be shown in **"ED RUSCHA/RAYMOND PETTIBON: THE HOLY BIBLE AND THE END"** at the Worcester Art Museum beginning April 7. This opportunity to examine 33 collaborative lithographs plus drawings, prints, and a 'zine by Pettibon and prints, altered books, and paintings by Ruscha will be short-lived — it's up for just seven weeks — so you'll want to pick up the catalogue, too, with its essays by David Hickey and Ed Hamilton, the master printer who oversaw the projects.

English critic John Ruskin exhorted painters to "paint the leaves as they growl" in his epic *Modern Painters*, which was published in five volumes, 1843-'60, and a gang of mid-19th-century American artists took the advice to heart. Calling themselves the American Pre-Raphaelites, they painted nature with great precision, and **"THE LAST RUSKINIANS: CHARLES ELIOT NORTON, CHARLES HERBERT MOORE, AND THEIR CIRCLE,"** opening at the Fogg Art Museum April 7, presents more than 50 watercolors and drawings by Ruskin and his American followers, who created realistic floral and landscape compositions from the 1860s well into the 20th century.

_Randi Hopkins

"WILLIAM WEGMAN: FUNNEY/STRANGE" @ Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover | April 7–July 31 | 978.749.4015 or www.addisongallery.org | "ED RUSCHA/RAYMOND PETTIBON: THE HOLY BIBLE AND THE END" @ Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St, Worcester | April 7–May 27 | 508.799.4406 or www.worcesterart.org | "THE LAST RUSKINIANS" @ Fogg Art Museum, 32 Quincy St, Cambridge | April 7–July 8 | 617.495.9400 or www.artmuseums.harvard.edu

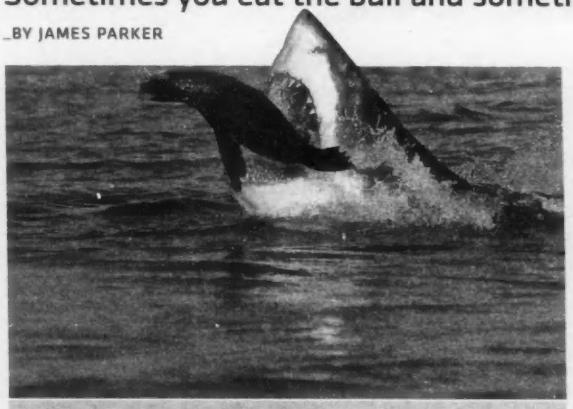
Television

'Mark my words, the bull's name is Cooper and he's a superstar'

Bon appétit

Sometimes you eat the bull and sometimes . . .

BY JAMES PARKER



LUNCH! On *Planet Earth* the animals eat as God intended.

With apologies to those of my readers who were expecting a poignant analysis of Rabbi Shmuley Boteach's *Shalom in the Home*, as promised in my last column, I am going to surrender this week to the beauty of the natural world. On the one-off documentary *E-Vets: The Things Pets Swallow* last Sunday (Animal Planet), a pair of black Labradors got into a two-pound bag of sugared pigs' ears and were brought to the Alameda East Veterinary Hospital by their concerned owner. The image had a queer, riddling quality: somewhere inside of these two identical dogs there were 18 pig's ears, suppurating quietly away. Did each dog eat nine? Some sort of nostrum or folk remedy seemed to be in order. Doctor Kevin Fitzgerald, "Fitz," a tall, droll man with a silver moustache, took control of the situation. "Will this stuff pass through?" he mused. "Maybe. But do you wanna wait for that? You wanna resolve things if you can. Let's make 'em vomit and get 'em out of here." (Two doses of apomorphine later, one of the dogs had gratefully hacked up the whole bagful.)

THIS WEEK IN REALITY

Fitz, a regular since 1998 on the AP show *Emergency Vets*, is much given to this easy rhetorical manner. "Why would an iguana eat coins?" he asked later. "Coins have salt from our fingers. What's better than salt? Do you like potato chips? Who doesn't?" Fitz was once employed as a bouncer for Willie Nelson, and he moonlights as a stand-up on the Denver comedy circuit: "The hardest-working veterinarian in show business." In 2003 a woman called Vicki Tenney appeared in a Denver court accused of stalking him. A correspondence that began with an enquiry about her cat had taken a worrying turn when she started to write daily to Fitz, enlarging upon her plans to take him to Heaven with her. In 2003 she was seen muttering his name in a Denver-area Burger King; in 2004 she was arrested after phoning him with the news that she had picked out his casket.

On the premiere episode of the Discovery Channel's *Planet Earth* (Sundays @ 8 pm), the animals were eating as God intended. Off the coast of South Africa, a great white shark corkscrewed clear of his own weight and rose into the air with a seal in his chops, its mermaid-like tail flapping sadly. In Botswana, a pack of dogs sent a lone impala on a desperate, skimming run, finally driving it into a river. Slack-jawed and casual, the charred-looking yellow-and-black dogs gathered on the bank as the impala paddled soupily in midstream: "Now it's a waiting game," narrated Sigourney Weaver. "The prey must come out, or drown." Later in the show we saw a family of elephants make a hundred-mile trek for water across the Kalahari, with dust clouds the color of cement fuming around their knees. When they made it to the waters of the Okavango Delta, they all went swimming: submarine cameras caught the happy, bicycling motions of their great dustbin feet.

Adriano Moraes, the professional bull rider and devout Catholic known as the "Cowboy of God" in his native Brazil, is in a slump. The three-time World Champion has had nine straight buckoffs over the past four weeks. Friday night Versus brought us the PBR Built Ford Tough Series from the Qwest Center in Omaha, and the black-shirted Moraes, his raised arm slicing the air like a scimitar, failed to improve his luck: a spring-heeled 1500-pounder named Dogtown threw him off after 5.6 seconds. Moraes landed on his head, and that elicited the approval of commentator Michael "G-Man" Gaffney: "See, he's not looking at the ground. . . . He's looking at the center of this bull, and that's where you have to be focusing." Chris Shivers, straddling the up-and-coming Cooper, also failed to locate the mystical taurine fulcrum. Cooper couldn't have cared less that Shivers was making a heroic comeback (a bull called Chili snapped his lower leg in half in 2006); he dumped the brave rider on his ass in less than three seconds. As Shivers limped off into the tunnel, alone, his bull rope and cowbell jangling imbecilically behind him, G-Man sang Cooper's praises: "This is one rank cat. Mark my words, the bull's name is Cooper and he's a superstar. That's big time — big time!" What a fine, unsentimental sport it is.

The season-two premiere of *Gene Simmons Family Jewels* (A&E, Sundays @ 9 pm), on the other hand, was wallowing and trashy. Forced situations, artificial subdrama: as a student of reality TV I am prepared to be tricked, bored, and debauched, but I will not be condescended to. Gene, the Kiss bassist with the 10-foot rotating tongue, is a man of enormous interest to himself and his immediate family, and no doubt to that band of delusionals and diehard ironists the Kiss Army, but his big fat smirk turns me right off. The show's producers have also overestimated the charm of Gene's children Nick and Sophie, a pair of callow teens who witticize painfully from a couch.

Now then — I missed it (I can't be everywhere), but it seems that last week's episode of *America's Next Top Model* on the CW was an absolute geyser of bad taste, a real gusher: the photo-shoot theme was "Death," and the girls slumped obediently with scrambled limbs and staring eyes in hallways and bathrooms, playing suicides, gunshot victims, electrocutees. Somewhere J.G. Ballard is tearing up an unfinished manuscript. Next week: I fulfill my vow to the Rabbi Shmuley Boteach. Stay tuned. ⊙

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IN THEATERS APRIL 6TH

Books

Jerusalem Jane Doe

Yehoshua's undead in Israel

BY CHARLES TAYLOR

A WOMAN IN JERUSALEM

BY A.B. YEHOSHUA. HARCOURT. 252 PAGES. $25

Israeli writer A.B. Yehoshua's *A Woman in Jerusalem* is an odd, perplexing novel — but also shrewd and profound. The plot is simple enough. A woman killed in a Jerusalem suicide bombing lies unidentified and unclaimed in the city morgue for a week. When a reporter discovers that she was grasping a payroll stub from a local bakery and that none of her co-workers has inquired about her absence, he writes an excoriating article. The bakery's elderly owner, appalled and fearful that the incident will ruin the reputation of a business that's been in his family for years, gives his personnel manager the job of finding out who she was and how this happened. The personnel manager is more concerned with refuting the story, with proving that it wasn't the company's fault. His aging boss, who's accepted responsibility, presses him to get on with it. Identifying the victim turns out to be a fairly easy task. But that just begins a never-ending procession of other tasks.

Yehoshua tells the story in a third-person approximation of the weary, exasperated personnel manager, a you-won't-believe-the-day-I-had voice. It's a deadpan version of the voice you hear in Jewish humor, the voice that says all suffering, high and low, is the special burden of the Jews. And beneath that voice, implied by the author's narrative distance, is someone taking in this story of an endless burden and saying, "Stop your kvetching!" Yehoshua is writing about how a war zone (and a country besieged by suicide bombers certainly qualifies) robs the dead of individuality. "The victims" becomes a catch-all category meaning "not us."

That seems an obvious lesson, but what makes *A Woman in Jerusalem* fuller, and also slippery, lies in the way that the living here are almost more anonymous than the dead woman. That's not to say Yehoshua has written indistinct characters. Each one has the sharp edges you encounter in the people you work with or meet. But people wrapped up in getting through the day, people whose outer surface feels both blurred and prickly, can have adopted a form of anonymity. And if getting through the day means not being blown up, that protective shell grows even thicker.

It's significant that the dead woman is the only character with a name. Everyone else is identified by his or her function. And as the novel goes on, and the personnel manager sheds the resentment he felt at the task, Yehoshua gives you the feeling of a man emerging raw-skinned and alive from a smothering cocoon.

I don't mean to imply that the book says suffering creates wisdom or that the suicide bombs are some sort of existential — or literal — retribution. (Shortly after beginning the novel, the author lost three friends, a Jewish woman and two Arab waiters, in a café bombing.) Yehoshua is insisting on the bombs as a fact and a violation, not an abstraction or, as apologists would put it, regrettable but understandable. He's saying that to normalize the bombs by pretending that they're simply part of the course of things — so as not to disrupt normal life — reduces normal life to a form of derangement.

That's the view rejected toward the end of the novel by the mother of the dead woman, who in a brief outburst does what no one else has done: she insists on her daughter's death not as a symbol of the opportunity for atonement but as fact. The personnel manager can't match her clarity, but his acceptance of responsibility to the dead woman makes it possible, finally, to speak of him as the novel's hero. His burden has become a calling; he's escaped the Jewish joke he was caught in. ◉

WHAT A DAY! In shedding his protective shell of anonymity, Yehoshua's protagonist escapes a bitter Jewish joke.

Classical

The mid-March Nor'easter was bad news not only for music groups but for those who missed some outstanding concerts.

Stormy weather

BSO cancellations, plus the Camerata, Jonathan Biss, Emmanuel Music, the Pražák Quartet, the Longwood Symphony, the Cantata Singers, and Barbara Cook

BY LLOYD SCHWARTZ

The BSO has been having terrible luck hanging on to its star soloists. Pianist Martha Argerich cancelled her engagement earlier this month, and then an unspecified illness forced glamorous Metropolitan Opera soprano Karita Mattila to bow out of Beethoven's *Fidelio*. Not for the first time, the BSO turned to soprano Christine Brewer (in January 2006, without benefit of rehearsal, she replaced Deborah Voigt in Beethoven's *Missa solemnis*). Rescue is certainly the operative word: Leonore, Beethoven's heroine, disguises herself as a man (named Fidelio — the faithful one) in order to release her husband, Florestan, who's being held as a political prisoner. It's one of the most demanding soprano roles in opera.

Then before the first performance, orchestra manager Ray Wellbaum announced that Brewer was fighting a cold. If you were listening for signs of strain, you might have detected a few in Brewer's highest and loudest notes — though it's a rare soprano who sounds effortless under ideal conditions. Brewer has a brightly focused, heroic voice and passion in her delivery. Her spoken dialogue sounded both understated and believable. Her Florestan, South African tenor Johan Botha, has a thrilling clarion voice, though without much variety of timbre. Florestan has been captive for two years and is on the verge of dementia and starvation. In Sarah Caldwell's 1976 production, Jon Vickers managed to suggest these qualities and yet still fill the hall. He tore your heart out. Botha sounded awfully healthy for a character in such dire circumstances. Still, the orchestra (after a somewhat rough start), the magnificent Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Levine's understanding of how Beethoven's essentially symphonic structure is the underlying source of drama (the extended celebratory finale contains the glorious insistence of the Fifth and Ninth Symphonies combined) kept me riveted, finally sweeping me away with the sincerity of its optimism that good really can triumph over evil.

Beethoven revised his only opera twice over a period of nine years after its 1805 premiere. You can hear him moving from Mozartian comedy (with echoes of *Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Zauberflöte*) to echt Beethoven. In the comedy, Jaquino, the prison gatekeeper (sung to perfection by the elegant Met tenor Matthew Polenzani), is hopelessly in love with the jailkeeper's daughter (pretty-voiced Scottish soprano Lisa Milne), who has fallen for "Fidelio." Warmly resonant bass Robert Lloyd was the tender-hearted jailkeeper, bass-baritone Albert Dohmen (Bartók's Bluebeard with the BSO last fall) the villainous Don Pizarro, James Morris the right-minded deus ex machina, Don Fernando. And in two superb cameos, as prisoners, we got Boston favorites tenor William Hite and baritone Robert Honeysucker.

The brief but intense Nor'easter two weekends back was bad news not only for the music groups that lost revenue but for the music-going public forced to miss a couple of the best concerts of the season. At the BSO, the week before *Fidelio*, James Levine returned with a reprise of Mahler's overwhelming Third Symphony, which he last played with the BSO in 2001, seven months before 9/11 and nine months before he was named music director.

His essential conception remains unchanged. He focused on the symphony's thistledown buoyancy and exuberant/alarming volatility, the way both within and among movements Mahler's vision of the world, of the cosmos, keeps evolving from primal awe (a mixture of celebration and fear of the natural world) into a vision of spiritual transcendence. In this rare symphony that ends with a slow movement, Levine lets that music (marked "Slow. Peaceful. Deeply felt.") unfold inch by inch, much more slowly than most conductors. But he never loses the thread, the underlying pulse. Opening night, the performance ran 15 minutes longer than the conclusion time listed in the program, but it never dragged.

You'd have to go back 28 years, to Claudio Abbado's stirring version of Mahler's Symphony No. 2 with the BSO, for the same kind of uplifting, wall-shaking communal experience. Although I continue to be moved by the interpretation, I was even more moved by the beautiful playing — from the very first bars. That opening horn call (James Sommerville), such a danger zone for horn players, was both grand and embracing. James Ferrillo's oboe sang of yearning. Elizabeth Rowe's flute seemed to embody spiritual purity. Concertmaster Malcolm Lowe's violin offered serene consolation. And Thomas Rolfs, playing the off-stage third-movement posthorn solo with such clear, steady, and soulful tone, seemed to be delivering a message from another world.

In the "Misterioso" fourth movement, the mezzo-soprano sings Nietzsche's poem warning us to pay attention, reminding us that deep as pain is, joy is even deeper. In 2001, the singer was Lorraine Hunt Lieberson, and I don't think I'll ever hear a deeper performance. I didn't ever want to hear anyone else. But Stephanie Blythe, with her voice more bronze than gold, her pinpoint accuracy and musical urgency, with the added warmth of Lowe's violin and Robert Sheena's English horn and Ferrillo's stabbing oboe outcry, made me glad to hear her. The women of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the American Boychoir chiming like angels (and singing from memory) made memorable, heavenly contributions.

MICHAEL LUTCH

RESCUE MISSION Christine Bewer stepped in for Karita Mattila in the BSO's *Fidelio*.

There were only three performances and all of them virtually sold out, but the one Friday afternoon, during the storm, was only sparsely attended. I wish everyone could have heard this.

Joel Cohen's Boston Camerata and Anne Azéma's Ensemble Aziman rewarded the small but intrepid audience for braving the elements and venturing out to the South End's beautiful acoustic marvel, the Church of the Immaculate Conception. Conceived and directed by Azéma, the program, the American premiere of *The Night's Tale: A Tournament of Love*, was an imaginative and enchanting attempt to give musical life to an important medieval French text, Jacques Bretel's vivid depiction of a courtly-love tournament *circa* 1310, *Tournoi de Chauvency*, for which no specific music is known. Azéma assembled likely vocal and instrumental pieces from that period and invited us to the tournament, and Cohen read passages from Bretel, a few in French but mostly in English.

"Neither for bad weather nor for frost,/ Nor for an icy morning , . . /Will I turn my thoughts/From the love I have" was the lonely (and timely) lament by Thibault de Champagne (1201–1253) with which baritone David Newman's courtier began and ended the evening. Azéma was joined by three women and Newman by three men in changing combinations. Even that eloquently sly fiddler Shira Kammen, strolling freely around the others, untrammeled by a score, joined the singing, as did the splendid Tom Zajac (playing sackbut, bagpipes, shawm, psaltery, Jew's

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harp, and hurdy-gurdy), not to mention Cohen himself. Azéma, with her angelic curly blond mop, was in irresistibly, seductively sweet voice. Good as they are, none of the others approaches her nuanced phrasing and mobile face. She's also a talented stage director, moving groups and soloists around the performing area in elegant reconfigurations. And each tune seems prettier than the last. Those Camerata fans who couldn't make it to the concert will have a chance to hear much of the music on CD later this year.

I've been admiring pianist Jonathan Biss for several years, but always with some reservations. Now, at the ripe old age of 25, he's finally convinced me that he's the real thing. His thoughtful program of Schumann, Webern, and Mozart at the Gardner Museum was both risky and accomplished. He seemed inside the heartbeat of every piece. The major work was Schumann's fantastical *Kreisleriana*, and he seemed to ride its expressive waves — and gallop away. He's developed an acute sense of phrasing that captures the maximum melodic beauty. When so many younger pianists are going for glitz, it's deeply satisfying to hear someone exploring the music itself.

Emmanuel Music is now in the third year of its Schumann Chamber Series, and the last concert I heard had some real gems: mezzo-soprano Pamela Dellal, first blending exquisitely with soprano Roberta Anderson in *Mädchenlieder*, a set of charming late duets, and then moving me with the *Maria Stuart Lieder*, Schumann's even later settings of poems written, in French, by Mary Queen of Scots before her execution. Dellal was also the regal page turner for Triple Helix's scintillating pianist, Lois Shapiro, who with her partners violinist Bayla Keyes and cellist Rhonda Rider was riveting in the high-spirited third and least-played of Schumann's trios.

Violist Roger Tapping has become an instant good citizen of Boston since he moved here after leaving the Takács String Quartet. He's now teaching and performing concerts at three distinguished conservatories (New England, Boston, and Longy). Last month he presented an ambitiously conceived and magnificently executed program at the Boston Conservatory with pianist Judith Gordon, the highlights of which were Rebecca Clark's rhapsodic Sonata (1919), deep in the shadows of Debussy and Fauré; Hindemith's grimly compressed and elegiac Sonata for Solo Viola (1922); and Brahms's ardent and moving E-flat Sonata, Opus 120 No. 2, his own transcription of his late Clarinet Sonata. ("I tease my clarinettist friends," Tapping said, "that they just have the prototype.") Last week he was back in the Bank of America Celebrity Series as a guest of the Pražák String Quartet (the name means "from Prague") in Brahms's Second String Quintet, the highlight of which was his warm harmonizing with violist Josef Kluson of the ingratiating melody of the first movement's second theme.

This was only the Pražák's second Boston appearance, though the quartet has a major European career and a large discography. Its sound is refreshingly more denim than silk or velvet. It opened with Janáček's powerfully obsessive First Quartet, the *Kreutzer Sonata* (inspired by Tolstoy's tragic short story) and then Dvořák's beloved *American* Quartet, which ended with the bows bouncing off the strings. It was good to hear these Czech masterpieces played by performers who, as it were, "speak the language" — not the most refined quartet playing but among the most spirited.

The Longwood Symphony Orchestra, "the orchestra of Boston's medical community," delivered an adventurous program under the clear, helpful, unfussy beat of its music director, Jonathan McPhee (who is also Boston Ballet's admirable music director). Beethoven's *Coriolan* Overture is a rhythmic minefield, but the players proceeded with confidence and a vigorous sense of drama. Debussy's *Nocturnes* had a firmer center of gravity than it usually gets, with the women of Chorus pro Musica adding increasing urgency in the last movement, *Sirènes*. In between came a moving performance of Yehudi Wyner's *Epilogue*, an elegy for his friend and fellow composer Jacob Druckman. The concert closed with two seldom-performed works of Samuel Barber's, the violent *Medea's Meditation and Dance of Vengeance*, from the ballet music for *Cave of the Heart*, composed for Martha Graham, and *Andromache's Farewell*, with powerhouse soprano Barbara Quintiliani. I wish the publisher of the score had avoided printing every climactic high note at the bottom of the right-hand page, so that at the most dramatic moments, the desperate Trojan queen, crying out against the execution of her son, has to turn a page. Still, Quintiliani, with her molten tones, was stunning.

MICHAEL LUTCH

MORE BRONZE THAN GOLD Stephanie Blythe was a welcome soloist in the Mahler Third.

What a discriminating audience the Cantata Singers get. The biggest rounds of applause for their gripping Bach B-minor Mass went quite rightly to the outstanding alto soloist Lynn Torgove, to baritone Dana Whiteside, to the marvelous chorus and orchestra (the Sanctus, with its celebratory trumpets and drums, really rocked!), and to music director David Hoose, whose intense sense of Bach's extremities — the yearning for mercy in the opening Kyrie, the yearning for peace in the final "Dona nobis pacem," the weeping "Et incarnatus est," the glazed disbelief of the Crucifixus, the sudden dancing glee at "Et resurrexit" — is the driving force of his conducting. Whiteside simply sang beautifully. But Torgove had a harder row to hoe. The great Agnus Dei — the last solo outcry in the Mass — is usually delivered with cavernous Earth Mother resonance. Torgove has a lighter voice (she started her career as a soprano), but she made the aria work by sounding more humanly vulnerable, even lamb-like. It was an unusual approach, but she not only conveyed the meaning of the words, she also seemed to be living them.

"These good songs really hold up, don't they?" was the rhetorical question Barbara Cook asked the audience at Symphony Hall at her third Celebrity Series concert. She sang 25 of them — by Richard Rodgers (with both Hart and Hammerstein), Duke Ellington, Irving Berlin, Harold Arlen, George Gershwin, and especially her old pal Stephen Sondheim — including a handful (like Gershwin's "Nashville Nightingale," Rodgers & Hart's "You're What I Need," and a Cliff "Ukulele Ike" Edwards specialty number called "My Dog Loves Your Dog") that even the most devoted lovers of the classic American songbook had probably never heard before. She titled this program, which debuted last November at Carnegie Hall, "No One Is Alone," after one of Sondheim's best songs from *Into the Woods*. Since the death of her long-time arranger/accompanist, Wally Harper, this was, she said, her sixth concert with Lee Musiker, with Peter Donovan the sympathetic and skillful new bass player.

Cook electrified Broadway — in *The Music Man*, in *Candide*, in *She Loves Me* — with her vocal range and the conviction and rhythmic snap of her phrasing. At 79, her range has narrowed; her voice is huskier, and for a while her identifying silvery gleam seemed to have dwindled to the thinnest filament. (At times she sounded a little like Mae West.) The apex of each musical arc seemed more spoken than sung, though the expressive phrasing ("I got lost — but *look* — what I've found") was as nuanced and pointed as ever. The only song that didn't work was the quasi-monologue "I Wish I Could Forget You," from Sondheim's *Passion*, in which the nuances broke up rather than illuminated the musical line.

Then slowly, about two-thirds of the way through her uninterrupted more-than-90-minute set, her voice began to fill out, open up, and blossom. In Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The Gentleman Is a Dope" and (especially) the almost operatic "This Nearly Was Mine" (written for *South Pacific*'s Ezio Pinza, and with a particularly thoughtful Musiker accompaniment that repeated the three notes of the word "paradise"), in Kern & Hammerstein's endearing "Nobody Else But Me" (Kern's last song, written for a revival of *Show Boat*), and in exhilarating up-tempo numbers like the Ellington/Don George "I'm Beginning To See the Light," Arlen & Johnny Mercer's "Accent-tchu-ate the Positive," and an urgent Sigmund Romberg/Hammerstein "Lover, Come Back to Me!", it was all singing, all the time. Most amazing of all, she ended the evening, as she usually does, singing without a mike: this time Frankie Laine's poignant assurance "We'll Be Together Again." That small voice seemed to fill and warm every distant corner and crevice of the vast hall. Who'd have guessed that outside it was beginning to snow again. ◉

MORE DENIM THAN SILK The Pražák String Quartet spoke the language of Czech music.

Classical + Dance

CLASSICAL

Concerts

THURSDAY 29

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JAMES LEVINE | Mozart's Symphony No. 25 and Piano Concerto No. 17, with Alfred Brendel; Schuller's *Seven Studies on Themes of Paul Klee*; Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé* Suite No. 2 | Thurs-Sat 8 pm | Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | $29-$111 | 617.266.1200

PACIFICA QUARTET | Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 1; Janáček's String Quartet No. 2 [*Intimate Letters*]; Smetana's String Quartet No. 1 [*From My Life*] | 8 pm | Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St, Cambridge | $25 | 617.876.0956 x 5120

FRIDAY 30

BOSTON BAROQUE CONDUCTED BY MARTIN PEARLMAN | Vivaldi's *Juditha triumphans*, with soprano Amanda Forsyth and mezzo-sopranos Phyllis Pancella, Ann McMahon Quintero, and Angela Niederloh | Fri-Sat 8 pm [pre-concert talk at 7 pm] | Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | $28-$71 | 617.484.9200

BOSTON LYRIC OPERA CONDUCTED BY STEPHEN LORD | Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera*, with Julian Gavin [Gustavus III], Chen-Ye Yuan [Captain Anckarström], Donna Dimitriu [Amelia], Heidi Stober [Oscar], Nancy Maultsby [Mam'zelle Arvidson], David Cushing [Ribbing], Michael Callas [Horn], and Brian Dunn [Christian] | Fri 7:30 pm; Sun 3 pm; Wed 7:30 pm | Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St, Boston | $33-$166 | 800.447.7400

KAREN GOMYO | works for violin | 12:15 pm | Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St, Boston | Free | 617.482.6439

MISTRAL | William Albright's *Rasles of Spring*; Mendelssohn's String Quintet No. 1; Copland's *Appalachian Spring* [original chamber version] | 7:30 pm | Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St, Cambridge | $30 | 978.474.6222

TRIO MEDIÆVAL | *Messe de Tournai*; French and Italian music of the 13th century | 8 pm [pre-concert talk at 6:30 pm] | First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St, Cambridge | $25-$65; $5 discount for students, seniors | 617.661.1812

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JAMES LEVINE | See listing for Thurs

SATURDAY 31

ASTON MAGNA | Bach's Three Partitas for Solo Violin, with Daniel Stepner | 6 pm | Simon Rock College of Bard, Daniel Arts Center, 84 Alford Rd, Great Barrington | $35 | 800.875.7156

BOSTON UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR, WOMEN'S CHORALE, AND CHAMBER CHORUS | 8 pm | Boston University, CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm Ave, Boston | Free | 617.353.8790

MUSICA SACRA | Tina Davidson's *Tu Autem, Domine*; Joshua Penman's *Becoming*; Sharon Farber's *Ashking*; Thomas Clive Lee's *Minnelied um Magdeburg: Minnelieder an got*; Robert S. Cohen's *Three Spirituals*; Roger Davidson's *Missa Universalis V* | 8 pm [pre-concert lecture with WGBH's Ellen Kushner at 7 pm] | First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St, Cambridge | $20-$40; $15 students, seniors | 617. 349.3400

DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN AND MISSION | *52 Bits: Hip-Hop Studies in Etudes, Book 1* | 8 pm | Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, Boston | $23-$38 | 617.747.2261

BOSTON BAROQUE CONDUCTED BY MARTIN PEARLMAN | See listing for Fri

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JAMES LEVINE | See listing for Thurs

SUNDAY 1

BOSTON CECILIA | Scott Wheeler's *The Construction of Boston*, with Sharla Nafziger [Niki de Saint Phalle], William Hite [Jean Tinguely], and Christopher Nomura [Norbert Rauschenberg]; Virgil Thomson's "Saints Procession," from *Four Saints in Three Acts*, and Ockeghem *funèbre*, with Nafziger | 3 pm | Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | $15-$60 | 617.232.4540

BOSTON COLLEGE FLUTE CHOIR CONDUCTED BY JUDY GRANT | 3 pm | Boston College, Gasson Hall, Room 100, 140 Comm Ave, Chestnut Hill | Free | 617.552.6004

EMMANUEL MUSIC CONDUCTED BY CRAIG SMITH | Heinrich Schütz's *Die sieben Worte unsers lieben Erlösers* as part of the 10 am service | Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston | good-will offering | 617.536.3356

RAY JACKENDOFF AND JOHN McDONALD | works by Beethoven, Schumann, Carter, Stravinsky, Muczynski, and McDonald for clarinet, basset horn, and piano | 3 pm | Tufts University, Granoff Music Center, Distler Performance Hall, 20 Talbot Ave, Somerville | Suggested donation $10 | 617.627.4042

LAVAZZA CHAMBER ENSEMBLE | Debussy's String Quartet in G minor; Sazli's String Quartet; Brahms's Piano Quartet No. 1 | 7:30 pm | St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 St. Paul St, Brookline | $20; $15 students, seniors, free for ages 9-18 | 781.863.2861

EDVINAS MINKŠTIMAS | piano works by Ciurlionis, Mozart, Chopin, Alkan, Liszt, and Bizet-Minkštimas | 3 pm | First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St, Boston | $25; $20 seniors; $15 students; free for ages 12 and under | 617.267.6730

DIMITRI MURRATH | works for viola | 8 pm | Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | Free | 617.232.4540

MUSICIANS FROM MARLBORO | Harbison's *Twilight Music*, for horn, violin, and piano; Ravel's String Quartet in F; Stravinsky's Concertino for String Quartet; Brahms's Trio in E-flat for Horn, Violin, and Piano | 1:30 pm | Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston | $23; $18 seniors; $10 students; $5 ages 5-17 | 617.278.5102

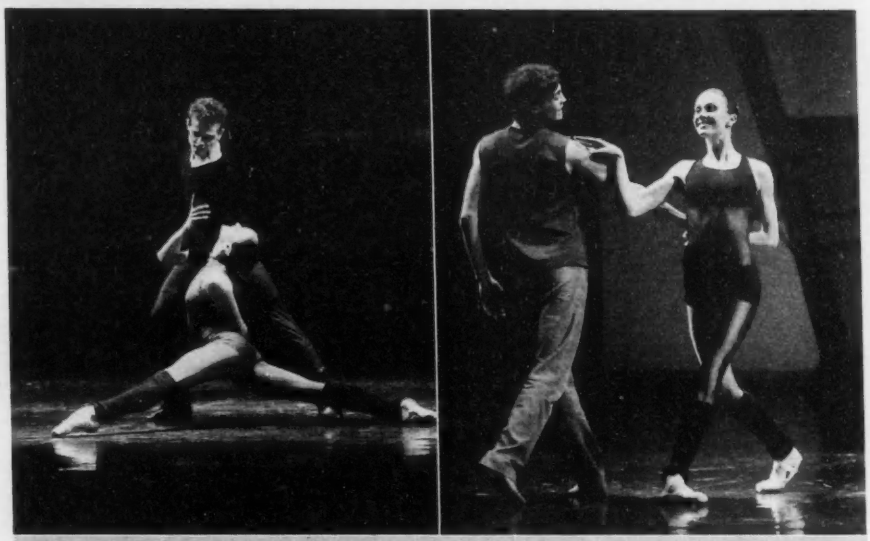
PRO ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY GUNTHER SCHULLER | Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 [*Turkish*], with Arturo Delmoni; Vivaldi's Sinfonia No. 3; Bartók's *Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta* | 3 pm | Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St, Cambridge | $15-$50 | 617.661.7067

BOSTON LYRIC OPERA CONDUCTED BY STEPHEN LORD | See listing for Fri

MONDAY 2

ALEA III CONDUCTED BY THEODORE ANTONIOU | works by Panayiotis Theodossiou, Heather Gilligan, Herlen Galvez, Adam Knauss, Savvas Tsiligiridis, Joelle Martson, and Naftali Schindler | 8 pm | Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm Ave, Boston | Free | 617.353.8724

JAMES DAVID CHRISTIE | organ works by Buxtehude | 8 pm | Adolphus Busch Hall, 29 Kirkland St, Cambridge | $25 | 617.496.2672



EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG presents *The Seagull* through the weekend at the Cutler Majestic Theatre.

TUESDAY 3

BOSTON CONSERVATORY BRASS ENSEMBLE CONDUCTED BY LARRY ISAACSON | Elgar Howarth's *Processional Fanfare #1*; Wallingford Riegger's Nonet for Brass; Grieg's *Funeral March in Memory of Rikard Nordraak*; Hindemith's *Konzertmusik* for Band, with pianist Janice Weber; Rimsky-Korsakov/Siekman's *Dance of the Tumblers* | 8 pm | Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 the Fenway, Boston | Free | 617.912.9222

BOSTON MODERN ORCHESTRA PROJECT CONDUCTED BY GIL ROSE | Allen Vizzutti's *Cascades*; Peter Gilbert's *Epigrams*; Lisa Bielawa's *Synapsis #5: He Figures Out What Clouds Mean*, for solo trumpet, and *Synapsis #6: Why Did You Lie to Me?*, for solo cello; Lang's *Anvil Chorus*, for percussion | 7 pm | Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave, Boston | $15 | 617.363.0396

CAMBRIDGE MADRIGAL SINGERS | Roy Harris's *Symphony for Voices*; works by MacDowell, Amy Beach, Louise Talma, Bernstein, Elliott Borishansky, Ernst Toch, Meredith Monk, and Alice Parker | 12:15 pm | King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston | Suggested donation $3 | 617.227.2155

"FIRST TUESDAY AT JORDAN HALL" | works for cello, with Laurence Lesser | 8 pm | Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | Free | 617.232.4540

WEDNESDAY 4

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY SINFONIETTA CONDUCTED BY JOSEPH SILVERSTEIN | Overture to Johann Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*; Copland's *El salón México*; Mozart's Symphony No. 33 [*Haffner*]; Alfred Schnittke's Concerto for Viola and Orchestra, with Sarah Darling | 8 pm | Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | Free | 617.232.4540

"OPERA BOSTON UNDERGROUND" | "French Kisses: Songs of French and American Cabaret," with Gil Rose, mezzo-soprano Glorivy Arroyo, tenor Christian Figueroa, and pianist Angela Gooch | 7:30 pm | Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $8 | 617.451.3388

BOSTON LYRIC OPERA CONDUCTED BY STEPHEN LORD | See listing for Fri

THURSDAY 5

BOSTON CONSERVATORY OPERA CONDUCTED BY BRUCE HANGEN | Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* | 8 pm | Boston Conservatory Theatre, 31 Hemenway St, Boston | $14-$16; $5 students, seniors | 617.912.9222

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁNYI | Ligeti's *Atmosphères*; Prelude to Act I of Wagner's *Lohengrin*; Bartók's Piano Concerto No. 2, with Pierre-Laurent Aimard; Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 | 8 pm | Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | $29-$101 | 617.266.1200

CALLITHUMPIAN CONSORT CONDUCTED BY STEPHEN DRURY | Steve Reich's *Pendulum Music*, for 3 or 4 microphones, amplifiers, and loudspeakers; Lei Lang's *Café Canticle*; Peter Maxwell Davies's *Sea Eagle*; Elizabeth Ogonek's *Three Scarlet Moods*; Luciano Berio's *Récit and Psy*; Giacinto Scelsi's *Manto*; Franco Donatoni's *Clair*; Nicholas Vines's *The Butcher of Brisbane*, for solo saxophone, with Eliot Gattegno | 8 pm | Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | Free | 617.484.9200

WEILERSTEIN TRIO | Janáček's Piano Trio [based on his String Quartet No. 1]; Dvořák's Piano Quartet in E-flat, with violist Roger Tapping | 8 pm | Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | Free | 617.232.4540

DANCE

Performance

THURSDAY 29

EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG | *The Seagull* | Thurs-Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm | Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St, Boston | $40-$80 | 800.233.3123

FRIDAY 30

LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTRÉAL/ [bjm_danse] | *Rhythm*, comprising Rodrigo Pederneiras's *Maspa* and Aszure Barton's *Les chambres des Jacques* | Fri 7:30 pm; Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm | Institute of Contemporary Art, 100 Northern Ave, Boston | $35 | 617.478.3103

"DANCE PROJECTS" | Daniel McCusker's *twice seen*, *Trio*, *two set out*, *Six-minute solo*, and *loop fold slide* | Fri-Sat 8 pm | Greet Street Studios, 185 Green St, Cambridge | $15; $10 students, seniors | 617.864.3191

JOSÉ MATEO BALLET THEATRE | *The Sirens*, *House of Ballet*, and *Courtly Lovers* | Fri-Sat 8 pm; Sun 4 pm | Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St, Cambridge | $35 | 617.354.7467

EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG | See listing for Thurs

SATURDAY 31

"BELLY DANCERS IN PARADISE" | 7:45 pm | All Asia Café, 334 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $7 | 617.367.6369

LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTRÉAL/ [bjm_danse] | See listing for Fri

"DANCE PROJECTS" | See listing for Fri

EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG | See listing for Thurs

JOSÉ MATEO BALLET THEATRE | See listing for Fri

SUNDAY 1

LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTRÉAL/ [bjm_danse] | See listing for Fri

EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG | See listing for Thurs

JOSÉ MATEO BALLET THEATRE | See listing for Fri

THURSDAY 5

BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE DANCE PROGRAM | Jody Weber's *Dance Kaleidoscope* | 8 pm | Bridgewater State College, Rondileau Campus Center, 131 Summer St, Bridgewater | $10; $8 students, seniors | 508.531.1321

Participatory

THURSDAY 29

EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | 8-10:45 pm | First Parish of Watertown, 35 Church St, Watertown | $8; $5 students | 781.662.7475

GREEK FOLK DANCE | 7 pm | Greek Orthodox Church of the Virgin Mary, 29 Central St, Somerville | Free | 617.625.2222

NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS & SQUARES with Yankee Ingenuity | 7:30-10:30 pm | Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St, Concord | $8; $5 students | 781.272.0396

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | 8 pm [with a beginner's dance at 7:30 pm] | Universalist Church, 111 Bridge St, Salem | $4 | 978.745.2229

TEMPORADA LATINA SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE | 9:30 pm [beginner and intermediate lessons at 8:30 pm] | Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge | $12 before 9:30 pm; $8 after 9:30 pm | 617.876.9330

FRIDAY 30

EL BEMBÉ 10 pm [with a salsa and merengue lesson at 9 pm] | Jorge Hernández Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St, Boston | $15 | 617.927.1717

DANCE FRIDAY | a smoke-and alcohol-free freestyle dance | 8 pm | Phillips Congregational Church, 121 Mount Auburn St, Watertown | Suggested donation $8-$12; $5 teens; children free | 617.997.0948

HAVANA CLUB SALSA | 8:30 pm [rueda lesson]; 9:30 pm [salsa lesson]; 10:30 pm [dancing] | Greek Club, 288 Green St, Cambridge | $12 | 617.312.5550

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | Park Avenue Congregational Church, 50 Paul Revere Rd, Arlington Heights | $8; $5 students | 781.662.7475

NOCHES DE REGGAETÓN | 9 pm | Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge | $10 | 617.876.9330

WESTON SCOTTISH DANCE | 8-10:45 pm | First Unitarian Church, School + Church Sts, Weston | $7 | 781.894.7754

SATURDAY 31

FOLK ARTS CENTER'S "ELEGANT EVENING OF INTERNATIONAL DANCING" with Barbara Pixton, Mary Leah, and Robert Penney | 8-11 pm [with a dance review from 3:30 to 5:30 pm] | First Parish in Weston, 349 Boston Post Rd, Weston | $25-$30 | 781.662.7475

Continued on p 30

Dance + Readings + Events

Continued from p 29

GAY & LESBIAN CONTRA DANCE | "Spring Party: Contra & English Country" | 7:30-11 pm | First Unitarian-Universalist Church, Centre + Eliot Sts, Jamaica Plain | $10 | 617.522.2216

HAVANA CLUB SALSA | 8:30 pm [rueda lesson]; 9:30 pm [salsa lesson]; 10:30 pm [dancing] | Greek Club, 288 Green St., Cambridge | $12 | 617.312.5550

NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS & SQUARES | "New Shoes, Strong Roots" | 8 pm | Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord | $8 | 617.547.7781

SALSA NIGHT | 9:30 pm-1 am | Mojitos, 48 Winter St., Boston | $10 | 617.513.9841

SUNDAY 1

FOLK AND CONTRA DANCING with Cal Howard & Friends | 2-4 pm | Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord | $5 | 781.662.7675

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING | 8-11 pm | MIT, Sala de Puerto Rico, Stratton Student Center [second floor], 84 Mass Ave., Cambridge | Suggested donation $1 | 617.253.7GLK

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC CLUB | 3:30-5:30 pm | Goddard House, 165 Chestnut St., Brookline | $20 | 617.734.5215

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING | 8-10:30 pm [with a beginner's dance at 7:30 pm] | Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward St., Newton | $5 | 617.254.HORA

MAMBO/SALSA CLUB with music by Mackie Burnette and DJ O'Bruno | 1 pm | Middle East, 480 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $15; $12 students | 617.524.2763

SALSA NIGHT | 9:30 pm-1 am [with a lesson at 8:30 pm] | Mojitos, 48 Winter St., Boston | $10 | 617.513.9841

SALSA SUNDAYS | 7 pm [6 pm lesson] | Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge | $10 | 617.876.9330

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | 6:30-8:30 pm | Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline | $5 | 617.661.5899

"SUNDAYS ARE FOR SALSA" | 4-6 pm | Extreme Dancesport, 288 Norfolk St., Cambridge | $5 | 617.492.2122

MONDAY 2

BULGARIAN/BALKAN DANCING | 7:30-9 pm | Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge | $12 | 617.840.2362

GREEK FOLK DANCING | 7-9 pm | Hellenic Cultural Center, 25 Bigelow Ave, Watertown | Suggested donation $10 | 617.491.5463

HAVANA CLUB MAMBO MONDAY SALSA DANCE | 9:30 pm | Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge | $8 | 617.312.5550 | www.havanaclub.com

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING | 8 pm-midnight | Temple Ezrhillech Israel, 384 Harvard Ave, Brookline | $5; $3 students | 617.576.5554

NEW ENGLAND SQUARES & CONTRAS with Yankee Ingenuity | 7:30-10:30 pm | Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord | $8; $5 students | 781.272.0396

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | 7:45-10:15 pm | Springsing, 98 George P. Hassett Dr., Medford | $7; $4 students | 617.661.5899

SWING ARLINGTON | 9 pm [with lessons at 6:45 + 7:45 pm] | Elks Dance Hall, 58 Pond Lane, Arlington | $10 before 9 pm; $8 after | 617.623.3334

TIKI TIKI BOOM | samba and bossa nova | 8 pm | Good Life, 28 Kingston St., Boston | Free | 617.970.9130

TUESDAY 3

CONTRA DANCING | "Spring Fling" | 8-10:30 pm | MIT, Student Center Sala de Puerto Rico, Room 491, 84 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $5; $3 students | 617.354.0864

WEDNESDAY 4

DANCE FREEDOM | a smoke- and alcohol-free barefoot dance | 7:30 pm | First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St, Cambridge | $6 | 978.369.7522

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE | 7:30-10:30 pm | Park Ave Congregational Church, 50 Paul Revere Rd, Arlington Heights | $9; $7 students | 781.662.6710

FRAMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | 7:30-10 pm | Pariah Hall of Edwards UCC Church, 39 Edwards St., Framingham | $6; $5 students, seniors | 978.897.7549

ISRAELI DANCE | 8-11 pm | MIT, Sala de Puerto Rico, Stratton Student Center [second floor], 84 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Suggested donation $1; free for MIT students | 617.484.3267

SALSA NIGHT | 10 pm-1 am [with lessons at 7:45 + 8:45 pm] | An Tua Nua, 836 Beacon St., Boston | $10 | 617.513.9841

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SALSA with the Evan Gutierrez Salsa Band | 8-11 pm | Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston | Free | 617.452.5018

THURSDAY 5

EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs

GREEK FOLK DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs

NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS & SQUARES | See listing for previous Thurs

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs

TEMPORADA LATINA SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs

READINGS

THURSDAY 29

NATHANIEL BELLOWS | *Why Speak* | 6:30 pm | Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Free | 800.542.READ

TINA CASSIDY | *Birth* | 7 pm | Porter Square Books, 25 White St., Somerville | Free | 617.491.2220

PAULINE CHEN | *Final Exam* | 7:30 pm | Newtonville Books, 256 Walnut St, Newton | Free | 617.244.6619

"DANGEROUS DIVAS" WOMEN'S POETRY SLAM CONTEST with Stacyann Chinn, Azali Devan, and Sunni Patterson | 7 pm | Milky Way Lounge and Lanes, 1105 Centre St., Jamaica Plain | $12 | 617.524.3740

MIKE FARRELL | *Just Call Me Mike* | 6 pm | Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Boston | Free | 617.566.6660

MICHAEL HEYTMAN | *The Tenth Rasa* | 6:30 pm | Trident Booksellers & Café, 338 Newbury St., Boston | Free | 617.267.8688

GALWAY KINNELL | poetry reading | 7:30 pm | Crowne Plaza Hotel and Resort, 10 Lincoln Sq, Worcester | $25 | 508.898.2656

CHAIM RISENBERG | *Cards for Sale* | 7 pm | Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton Centre | Free | 617.796.1360

FRIDAY 30

BRENDAN HALPIN | *Dear Catastrophe Waitress* | 6:30 pm | Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Free | 800.542.READ

SATURDAY 31

"OPEN BARK POETRY NIGHT" with Deborah Priestly | 8 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge | Suggested donation $3-$5 | 617.354.5287

SUNDAY 1

BOSTON POETRY SLAM & OPEN MIC | Team Selection Slam, Part I | 8 pm | Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $5 | 617.354.2685

LIZARD LOUNGE POETRY SLAM & JAM | 7:30 pm | Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass Ave., Cambridge | $6 | 617.547.0759

GINA ATHENA ULYSSE | *Because When God Is Too Busy: Haiti, Me, and the World*: spoken-word performance | 7 pm | Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston | $20 | 617.437.7172

MICHAEL WARD | Elliot "Tacuat" Brown | noon | Bill Rodgers Running Center, 353-T North Marketplace, Faneuil Hall, 1 Faneuil Hall Sq, Boston | Free | 617.723.5612

MONDAY 2

KATHLEEN JAMIE | poetry reading | 5:30 pm | Harvard University, Lamont Library, Woodberry Poetry Room, Harvard Yard, Mass Ave + Quincy St., Cambridge | Free | 617.495.2454

BARRY MOSER | *A Fishing for the Vulgar* | 5 pm | Boston University, College of Communications, Room 101, 640 Comm Ave, Boston | Free | 617.353.5404

SOUTH BOSTON POETRY SLAM | 8 pm | Farragut House, F + 6th St, South Boston | $5 | 617.269.3090

STONE SOUP POETRY OPEN MIC with Jack Powers | 8 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge | Suggested donation $4 | 617.227.0845

TUESDAY 3

MICHAEL FOURNIER | *Double Nickels on the Dime* | 7 pm | Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Boston | Free | 617.566.6660

WEDNESDAY 4

ALI A. ALLAWI | *The Occupation of Iraq* | 7:30 pm | First Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge | Free | 617.495.2727

SENATOR BILL BRADLEY | *The New American Story* | 6:30 pm | First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge | $5 | 800.542.READ

MARILYN JOHNSON | *The Dead Beat* | 7 pm | Barnes & Noble at Boston University, 660 Beacon St., Boston | Free | 617.267.8484

CONOR MURPHY | short stories and essays | noon | MIT, Killian Hall, Room 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge | Free | 617.253.6857

RANDALL PINKETT | Cargua CEO | Northeastern University, Snell Library, 360 Huntington Ave, Boston | Free | 617.373.2350

CHET RAYMO | *Valentine* | 7 pm | Porter Square Books, 25 White St., Somerville | Free | 617.491.2220

RISHI REDDI | *Karma and Other Stories* | 7 pm | Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Boston | Free | 617.566.6660

THURSDAY 5

RODERICK ANSCOMBE | *Virgin Lies* | 7 pm | Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Free | 617.499.2000

W.S. DI PIERO, JOHN HENNESSY, AND DON SHARE | *Chinese Apples, Bridge and Tunnel, and Squandermania* | 7 pm | Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Boston | Free | 617.566.6660

SUSAN PIVER | *How Not To Be Afraid of Your Own Life* | 7 pm | Porter Square Books, 25 White St., Somerville | Free | 617.491.2220

TALKS

THURSDAY 29

"AMUSEMENT PARKS AND GRAND HOTELS: BOSTON HARBOR AS IT WAS" with Donald Cann and John Galluzzo | 12:15 pm | Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St, Boston | $5; $4 students, seniors | 617.482.6439

"A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE MBTA'S ACCESSIBILITY" with lawyers from the Greater Boston Legal Services | 2 pm | Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St, Cambridge | Free | 617.354.8807

"OUT OF THE PARK" with Janet Marie Smith | 7 pm | Boston Architectural College, 320 Newbury St, Boston | Free | 617.262.5000

"OF STARS AND SHAMROCKS" | film screening and discussion with John M. Michalczyk | 7 pm | Boston Center for Jewish Heritage, 18 Phillips St, Boston | Suggested donation $10 | 617.523.2324

"THERE AND BACK AGAIN: A JOURNEY INTO THE HEALTH OF A COMMUNITY AT ALAJUELITA" | panel discussion with Brandies students | noon | Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St, Waltham | Free | 781.736.8100

FRIDAY 30

"THE CONSTELLATION PISCES BEHIND THE SIGN ARIES" with Peter Kubanka | 7:30 pm | Boston Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington | $12 | 413.387.9208

"MRS. CODMAN AND MARY: LIVES FROM THE EARLY REPUBLIC" | 7 pm | Gore Place, 52 Gore St, Waltham | Suggested donation $5 | 781.894.2798

"THE NUREMBERG DOCTORS' TRIAL: 60 YEARS LATER" | 8:30 am-4:45 pm | Boston University, George Sherman Union Auditorium, 775 Comm Ave, Boston | Free [registration required] | 617.638.4628

"ON NOT KNOWING: TRANSLATING FROM THE TURKISH" with Sidney Wade | 1 pm | Boston University, School of Theology, 745 Comm Ave, 6th Fl, Boston | Free | 617.358.1763

SATURDAY 31

NATIONAL WRITERS UNION WORKSHOP | discussions on subsidiary rights, royalties, copyright, option clauses | 10:30 am-12:30 pm | Barnes & Noble at Boston University, 660 Beacon St, Boston | Free | 617.267.8484

RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY SPRING 2007 FELLOWS' PRESENTATION SERIES with Anita Mehta | 3:30 pm | 34 Concord Ave, Colloquium Room [second floor], Cambridge | Free | 617.495.8212

"YOUR OWN PERSONAL HEALTH PLAN" | 11 am-4 pm | Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St, Cambridge | Free | 617.354.8807

SUNDAY 1

"ONE NATION, ONE STANDARD: AN EX-LIBERAL ON HOW HISPANICS CAN SUCCEED JUST LIKE OTHER IMMIGRANT GROUPS" with Herman Badillo and moderator Jeffrey Sanchez | 6:30 pm | Northeastern University, Egan Center, 120 Forsyth St, Boston | Free | 617.482.6439

MONDAY 2

"THE TRUE GEN" | screening of the documentary, with director John Mulholland and Maria Cooper | 5:30 pm | John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Morrissey Blvd, Columbia Point, Boston | Free | 617.514.1643

TUESDAY 3

"THE EDUCATION OF MS. GROVES: EXPERIENCES OF A FIRST-YEAR TEACHER" with Monica Groves, Ithar Harpaz, and Susan Moore Johnson | 5:30 pm | Harvard Graduate School of Education, Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge | Free | 617.496.5873

"THE OTHER BLACK BOSTONIANS: WEST INDIANS IN BOSTON, 1900-1950" with Violet M. Johnson | 6:30 pm | Old State House, 206 Washington St, Boston | Free | 617.720.1713

"TIME AND ARCHITECTURE" with Massimo Carmassi | 6:30 pm | MIT, Room 10-250, 77 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Free | 617.253.7791

WEDNESDAY 4

"CINDERELLA'S FAMILY: STEPFAMILY TRADITION IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY NEW ENGLAND" with Lisa Wilson | noon | Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston St, Boston | Free | 617.646.0560

"DISCUSSIONS ON DIVERSITY" | panel discussion | 6:30 pm | Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St, Cambridge | Free | 617.354.8807

"THE LAST GREAT MIGRATIONS: SPECTACLE AND CHALLENGE" with Joel Breger | 6 pm | Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 26 Oxford St, Cambridge | Free | 617.495.3045

THURSDAY 5

"ART LOVES" with Louise Bourgeois | 6:30 pm | Institute of Contemporary Art, 100 Northern Ave, Boston | Free | 617.478.3103

"FEDERMAN SUR FEDERMAN: MENTIR OU MOURIR" with Raymond Federman | 6 pm | Harvard University, Harvard Yard, Boylston Hall, Fong Auditorium, Cambridge | Free | 617.495.2546

"THE NATURE OF PHOTOGRAPHS" with Stephen Shore | 7 pm | Photographic Resource Center at Boston University, 832 Comm Ave, Boston | Free | 617.353.0600

EVENTS

THURSDAY 29

"CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL GRANT RECIPIENTS" | reception celebration | 4-6 pm | Cambridge City Hall, 795 Mass Ave [second floor], Cambridge | Free | 617.349.4382

"THE NORTH AMERICAN COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS OLYMPIAD" | 9 am-3 pm | Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Pkway, Cambridge | Free | 781.736.2709

FRIDAY 30

CRAFTBOSTON | craft sale and exhibition with 175 artists | Fri 10 am-7 pm; Sat 10 am-6 pm; Sun 11 am-5 pm | Seaport World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd, Boston | $15; $12 seniors; free for ages 12 and under

"FUNPLAY WITH WORDS" | verbal dialoguing and problem solving | 7:30 pm | Third Life Studio, 33 Union Sq, Somerville | $20-$40 |

SATURDAY 31

"ANIMATION SHOWCASE" | Emerson College animation films | 1 + 3 pm | Museum of Science, Cahners Theatre, Science Park Boston | Free [with museum admission] | 617.723.2500

"BOSTON ANTIQUES WEEKEND" | antiques, vintage fashion, textiles | Sat 10 am-7 pm; Sun 10 am-5 pm | Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St, Boston | $15 [weekend pass]; $10 [one day] | 781.862.4039

DOC KOUNTZE ARTS FESTIVAL | reception and film festival | Sat 7:30 [reception]; Sun 1 pm [film fest] | McGlynn School, Fresdom Way [off Riverside Ave], Medford | $10 | 781.393.8218

ECOTARIUM PLANETARIUM PARTY | telescope viewings, cocktails, hors d'oeuvre | 6-9 pm | Ecotarium, 222 Harrington Way, Worcester | $35 | 508.929.2703

"FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL" | showcase of found videotape clips | midnight | Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St, Brookline | $9.50 | 617.734.2500

INTER ALIA: "REFLECTIONS ON LIGHT, PART II" | interdisciplinary performance art | 7:30 pm | Third Life Studio, 33 Union Sq, Somerville | $15 | 617.628.0196

CRAFTBOSTON | See listing for Fri

SUNDAY 1

"PEN/HEMINGWAY AWARDS" with Edward P. Jones | 3 pm | John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Morrissey Blvd, Columbia Point, Boston | Free | 617.514.1643

SQUAREFOUR TOURNAMENT | adult four square event | 2-4 pm | Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $3 | www.squarefour.org

"BOSTON ANTIQUES WEEKEND" | See listing for Sat

CRAFTBOSTON | See listing for Fri

DOC KOUNTZE ARTS FESTIVAL | See listing for Sat

WEDNESDAY 4

"GET YOUR SOX ON!" | Red Sox vs. Royals, appetizers, raffles | 6:30-10 pm | Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St., Boston | $10 | 781.444.7771

GAY & LESBIAN

THURSDAY 29

BENT | 10 pm | Middle East downstairs, 480 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $10 | 617.864.EAST

THURSDAY 4 WOMEN | 10 pm | Mellem, 36 Lansdowne St, Boston | $10 | 617.417.0186

FRIDAY 30

DYKE NIGHT | 9-10 pm | Toast Lounge, 70 Union Sq, Somerville | $10 | www.dykenight.com

SATURDAY 31

"CAPEMIX SPRING FLING DANCE PARTY" | 7:30-11 pm | 58 Barnstable Rd, Hyannis | Suggested donation $5 | 508.280.9931

GLITTER SWITCH DRAG KARAOKE | 8:30 pm | Club Hollywood Boston, 43 Essex St, Boston | $5 | 617.417.0186

PINK LESBIAN NIGHT | 10 pm | I/D, 13 Lansdowne St, Boston | $10 | 617.417.0186

MONDAY 2

LESBIAN RAP | 7:30 pm | Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge | Free | 617.354.8807

LIVING ART GROUP | for lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer women. 13-25 | 6-8 pm | Boston GLASS Community Center, 93 Mass Ave, Boston | Free | 617.266.3349

SPEAKEASY DISCUSSION GROUP FOR LGBT YOUNG ADULTS 18-25 | 7 pm | Boston GLASS Community Center, 93 Mass Ave, Boston | Free | 617.266.3349

THURSDAY 5

BENT | See listing for previous Thurs

THURSDAY 4 WOMEN | See listing for previous Thurs

BENEFITS

THURSDAY 29

"RAISE THE ROOF PARTY" TO BENEFIT PINE STREET INN | silent auction, raffles, music | 6-9 pm | Bernard Toale Gallery, 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | $50 | 617.892.9179

FRIDAY 30

"LAS VEGAS NIGHT" TO BENEFIT THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR | hors d'oeuvre and games | 7-11 pm | American Legion Post, 215 Waverly Oakes Rd, Waltham | $15 | 781.592.4334

SATURDAY 31

ANNUAL ART AUCTION TO BENEFIT MASSART | 9 pm | Massachusetts College of Art, Bakalar and Paine Galleries, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston | $175 | 617.879.7014

ARTISTS' BALL TO BENEFIT THE BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS | dinner and masquerade | 6:30 pm [dinner]; 9:30 pm-1 am [ball] | Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston | $50-$200 | 617.426.ARTS

COMEDY NIGHT TO BENEFIT THE NEW ENGLAND COALITION FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP | music and comedy | 8 pm | FL Boston, 290 Wood Rd, Braintree | $30 | 508.655.3329

"REACHING FOR THE STARS!" GALA TO BENEFIT THE BOSTON CONSERVATORY'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND | gala, dinner, auction | 6-11 pm | Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston | $300 | 617.912.9194

"SHADES OF SPRING" GALA TO BENEFIT THE FOUNDATION FIGHTING BLINDNESS | food, music, auction | 6:30 pm | Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave, Boston | $200 | 781.786.0504

"SPRING FLING" TO BENEFIT THE NEWTON FREE LIBRARY | food, music, silent literary auction | 7 pm | Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St, Newton Centre | Free | 617.796.1360

"URBAN WALK FOR HAITI" | 3K walk | 12:30 pm [registration begins at noon] | 29 Mount Auburn St, Cambridge | Free [donations welcome] | 978.505.5608

SUNDAY 1

"VIA FUNDRAISER" TO BENEFIT ALTERNATIVES UNLIMITED | Italian food and music | 6 pm | VIA, 89 Shrewsbury St, Worcester | $1000 | 5108.334.6232

TUESDAY 3

"FIELD OF BEERS" TO BENEFIT THE ROOM TO DREAM FOUNDATION | beer dinner | 7 pm | Cask 'n Flagon, 62 Brookline Ave, Boston | $75 | www.roomtodreamfoundation.org

"A SPOONFUL OF GINGER" FOOD TASTING TO BENEFIT JOSLIN DIABETES CENTER'S ASIAN AMERICAN DIABETES INITIATIVE | ethnic food and music | 6-8 pm | State Room, 60 State St, Boston | $200 | 617.732.2412

THURSDAY 5

"BANNED IN BOSTON: A MADCAP COMEDY REVUE" TO BENEFIT URBAN IMPROV | local celebrities, politicians, and media personalities | 6 pm | Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St, Boston | $150; $75 ages 40 and under | 617.524.7045

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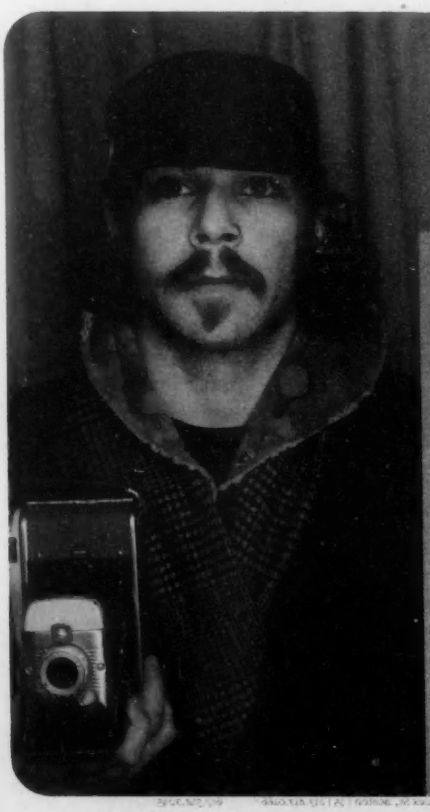

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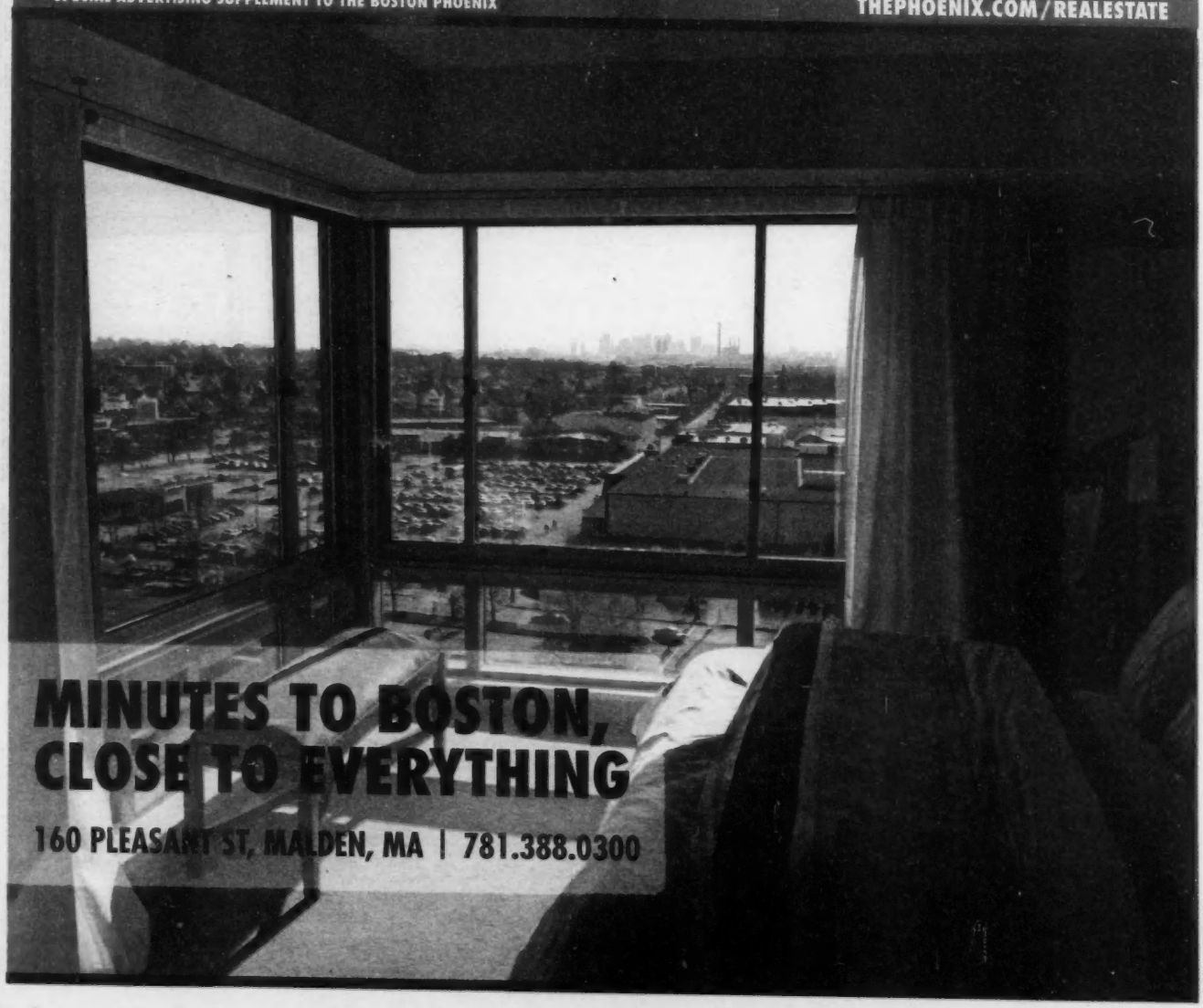

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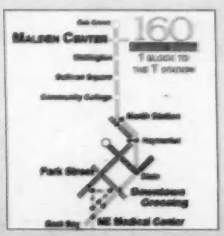

- 12 MINUTES TO BOSTON
- MEDIA ROOM, DINING ROOM
- FITNESS CENTER, SUNDECK
- ASSIGNED COVERED PARKING
- 1 & 2 BEDROOMS & STUDIOS
- MOVE IN BY MAY 1 TO RECEIVE A GIFT

Photo background credit: MBTA

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Just steps from the Commuter Rail into Boston, The Cordovan is a PET FRIENDLY community offering bright and airy apartments with spectacular amenities - right in the middle of downtown Haverhill's array of great bistros, unique shopping and the very cool Wingate Arts District! *Its where you want to be!*

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Rte. 9 East
Framingham MA

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*Initial payment of principal and interest only with a 10% down payment and a 2/1 Buydown paid by Seller at an interest rate of 6.125%. Initial interest rate of 4.125% will go up by 1.000% in the second year. In years 3-30 the rate will be 6.125%. All interest rates subject to change. Income required to qualify may vary depending on total monthly obligations.

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FABULOUS LIFESTYLE

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Welcome to Independence Place, where you can choose from one or two bedroom apartment homes—some with dens. The lifestyle here is nonstop fun with luxury amenities like:

- Beautiful Clubhouse
- Party / Social Room
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- Fitness Center
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- Professionally Landscaped Grounds

The apartment homes themselves feature fine appointments such as:

- Oversized soaking tubs
- Walk-in closets
- Gas fireplaces and garage parking available.

One bedroom apartments from $1,175/mo.
Two bedroom apartments from $1,450/mo.

Visit Independence Place today and ask about our move in specials!

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Directions: From North/South, take I-295 to exit 4E/Plainfield Pike. Continue ½ mile, turn right on Independence Way, continue ¾ mi. to leasing office on left.

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Convenient luxury units priced from the low $300s.
Call 978-532-5100 for an appointment today!

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*Down payment, credit score, income, and general credit quality apply

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Brickworks

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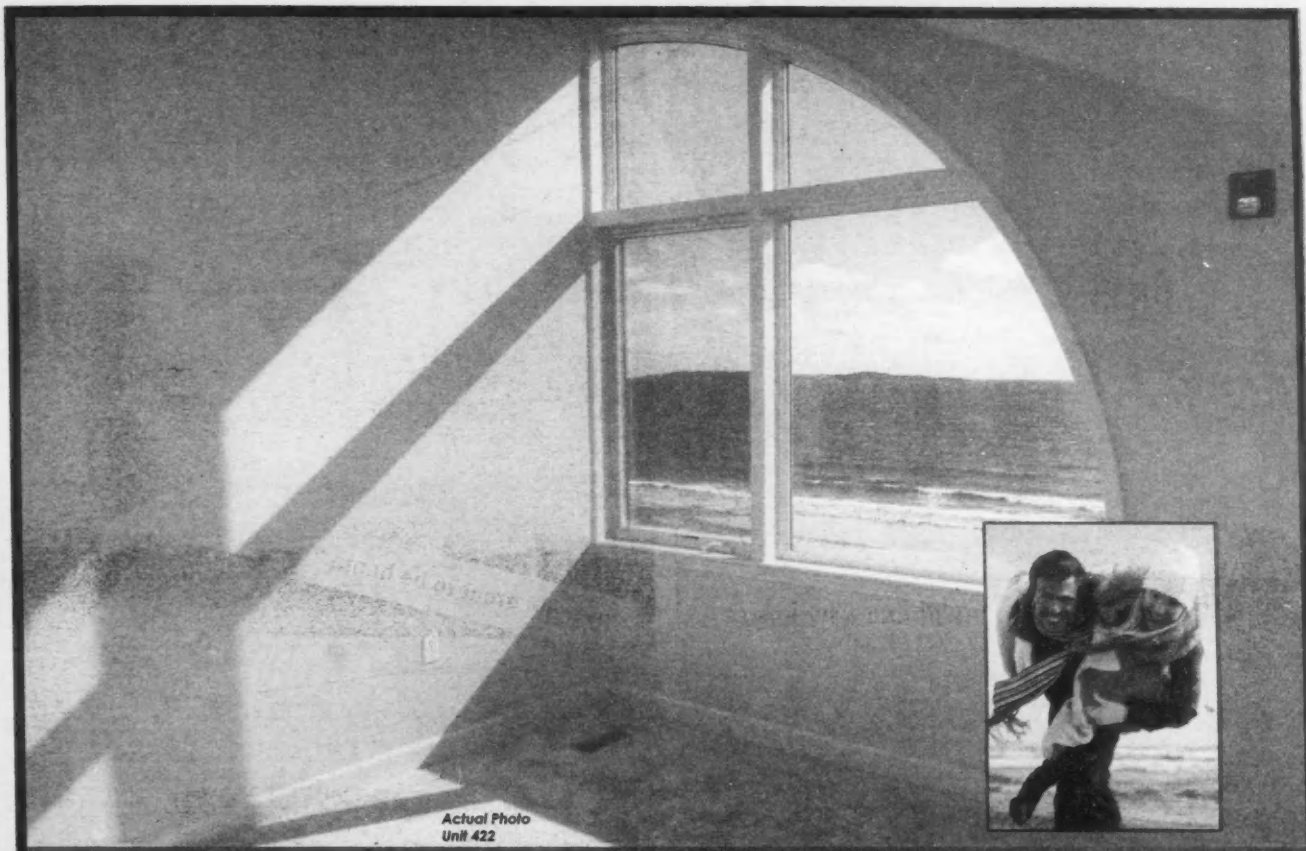

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Make your move to The Atlantica — greater Boston's best new beachfront residence.

Here, you can enjoy beautiful sunsets in a new-construction condominium located just 5 miles from Boston and less than 5 minutes from the Blue Line, with prices starting at $279,900.

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Atlantica

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REAL ESTATE

Apartments_Rentals

1 Bed room $775 Per Month
Deleided apartment in downtown Lynn near the courthouse. Walk to the travelr rail. Hot water included in rent. for more details please contact us at 201-845-7300

$1150 per month One bedroom
Rent $1150 month Rebate None Security deposit 1/2 month Category Private Rental Listed by Prop Manager Available 2/26/07 (flexible) to Min 1 year Renew lease Yes Rental Type Apartment Bedrooms One Bathrooms 1

$1650 Beacon St 1 bdrm
One bedroom apartment available for sublet for April 1 or 15 through August. Lease is available for renewal after August. Beautiful apartment with the following amenities: working fireplace dog friendly dishwasher/disposal huge closet with ample shelving very high ceilings hardwood floors huge windows with great light and decorative shutters Roofdeck with AMAZING views of the river (it's worth it for the fourth of July alone. Completely unobstructed view of the fireworks) Building is very quiet, amazing beacon street location, one block from the Charles. I love this place and am going to miss it tremendously. Please call Beth for showing at 978.394.2483 or email at bethabbot@yahoo.com.

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Lrg furnished studio in owner-occupd twn hse nr pru/copley. Newly decorated, avail now $995, incl utils. 617-536-1678

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Brand new 2 bedroom, 2 bath units w/hdwd flrs, granite cntrs, fully appliianced kitchens, central air, fitness center, pool & underground garage parking. Lease and references required. No Pets. $1,625-$1,750/mo. Call Neal Shapleigh (978)973-7585

Cool & New on Orangeline
Come discover Malden Center - Greater Boston's newest up & coming neighborhood. 160 Pleasant St. is 12-minutes to Boston on the Orange line, and only one-block from the Malden Center T Station. Luxury amenities abound in this beautiful new building. Currently offering 1 MONTH'S FREE RENT on One and Two Bedrooms, and TWO MONTH'S FREE RENT on select Two Bedrooms. We also have a few studios with dens available. We have a fitness center, media room with large plasma screen, dining room to book for your parties as well as garage parking in the building, over-sized windows, and magnificent views of Boston. The SMART CHOICE!

HUD HOMES!
3 bed $476/mo! 4 bed $595/mo! 5% down, 20 years at 8%! For listings 800-559-4145 ext 5938

Two bedroo $1600 per month
Two-bedroom apartment with hardwood floors and laundry in the building. The price includes heat and hot water, and the building is located one block to the T, shops, and more. Great for or easy going responsibles. Live in the building Aerosmith once lived in. Conveniently located on the T and minutes to the Harvard/Commonwealth intersection, a short walk to many shops, bars, and restaurants.

Apartments_ Rentals Wanted

$1500 per month Three bedroom
This 3 bedroom apartment is located on a lovely tree lined street in West Roxbury. The kitchen has a dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, disposal, trash compactor, washer & dryer and a Jenn-air grill. The dining room has a built in china cabinet. Also included for use is a solid pecan wood dining room set w/oval table and six chairs, beautiful china cabinet and a liquor cabinet. The living room has a fireplace and a full wall window seat. The bathroom has a full glass walk in shower with a seat. There is a very nice screened in porch. This apartment is within walking distance to all major transportation systems, including the travelr rail. It is also a 7-10 minute ride to all the major Boston hospitals. There is off street parking in the driveway for 2+ cars.

Studio $1200 per month
Totally Furnished Private Room. Not A Share or Roomate situation. Beautiful hardwood floors, Private bath with shower. Kitchenette complete with hotplate, microwave, toaster oven, coffee maker, etc. Everything included and ready to move-right in. All utilities included, except cable & telephone. No security or last month. One time cleaning fee of $75 applies. please call us 201-845-7300

Real Estate for Sale

Condo for Sale in Allston
28 Quint Ave - Unit 18 List Price: $205,000 Boston, MA - Brighton 02134-2501 http://coldwellbanker.com/ MLS #: 70532083 CHARMING RENOVATED SPACIOUS 2nd flr unit in the heart of Brighton/Allston area. New kitchen and bath-well maintained - hardwood floors - high ceilings - newer windows - New roof & heating system - security system - prof manged building. Permit parking. Easy to Show. OH Sun 3/11 11.30-1pm

Florida
Tampa/St. Pete/Sarasota. Beautiful 2/2, Den, Lanai, Garage. Exclusive Gay Retirement Community. PalmsOfManasota.org $259,900. 941-524-2255.

NATURE LOVER'S DREAM
2BR waterfront on Forge Village Beach in 6 Canal St. Westford MA. List price $220,000 Duplex style condex, new everything: stone cntrs, stnls stl, tile bath. Lrg yard leading to prvt shore, dock your boat here. 30 mins to Boston. New on market, owner. OPEN HOUSE Sat 3/24 12-4pm. Call Joe 978-392-3608

Sublets_Temporary

$1100 per month Studio
Great studio in the Fenway for rent March 1. Very clean building and great management company. The studio is very spacious with hardwood floors and full kitchen with enough room for a small table. The building is 90% responsibles and all studio apartments. The rent includes heat and hot water. Utilities have not been more than $30/month. The studio is right off Park Drive and is close to Simmons and Emmanuel College, Longwood Medical area, Landmark Center, and Fenway Park. Close to Shaws market and many great neighborhood restaurants. I just bought property and have to move out. One months rent required for move in with a 99% chance you could move in on Feb. 25th. You would have to take over my lease which is until September 1st. A free month of rent because I have already paid for August.

$2400 per month Three bedroom
Very large three bedroom apartment, hardwood floors, huge kitchen, high ceilings, recently repainted, mantles in large bedroom and living room. Please inquire about parking.

$999 per month One bedroom
Beautiful 3 acre park in front.Top floor Brick Brownstone Townhouse On street prkg.Large eat in kitchen,w/a large picture window.Bedroom is small though Bdrm has a queen mattress and 4 draw desk).Bathroom big -8 X 12ft.A very nice plush couch+matching luv seatin Living rm.If U smoke b careful.So far no craters on the couch.Theres a fake but nice looking Orint! rug in living rm.Floor is wood.14" color TV + less than average stereo. Also kitchenis gas stove + microwave.Plates for4,forks,spoons,knives,4 pots+ pans.3 towels one set of sheets +4 pillows,and cases.U can wash them downstairs on the 1st floor coin operated W/D.Important-When are you looking to start and End? One bedroom best for one maybe 2.

Two bedroom$1250 per month
5 room apartment, unfurnished, owner occupied 3-family building and a short walk to Red Line (mbta). 1 mile to beach. 3 miles to Downtown Boston. Condo-to-be, Rent to own! 1200 square ft.... $250K with 25K to Buyer at closing for improvements. please call us 201-845-7300

Two bedroom $875 per month
Large bedroom in house for rent and available now. House is on safe and quiet street in Hyde Park, and convenient access to public transportation. The rooms are with hardwood floors, walls, windows all in excellent condition. Parking is available. please call us 201-845-7300

Vacation Property

$1300 per month Two bedroom
Second floor, 2 bedroom apartment. Brand new hard wood floors, new kitchen and appliances, new bathroom with tile flooring, freshly painted walls, French door,living room, formal dinning room, brand new front and rear porches. 2 Blocks from Orange Line, bus stop on the corner, one way street. Non smokers and no pets. Easy to show, ready to move in. For more information please call, Luis.

$2650 per month Two bedroom
Magnificent Historic Rowhouse, very spacious just outside Bunker Hill/Monument Square. Two Bathrooms, responsible Fireplace, Whirlpool, friendlyed Hardwood Floors throughout, and many other unique Historic Details. Laundry in Unit, Dishwasher, plus Parking in Garage available. Close to Route 93 and Route 1. Available furnished all inclusive for $3500 per month.

$3300 per month four bedroo
Under renovation. Duplex will have New heat, A/C, All new kitchen w/ granite countertops, dishwasher, stainless appliances, new bathroom, updated electrical and plumbing, laundry in unit. Tenant pays for water & sewer.

$700 per month Two bedroom
Two rooms available in a huge three bedroom condo. The condo is in a beautiful building directly on Commonwealth Ave steps to the b line and the 66 bus to Cambridge. Hardwood floors throughout, tons of closet space, foyer and one bathroom. There is laundry in basement and ceiling fans for the summer. heat and hot water included. $700 per room per month, can negotiate month to month rental. There is currently one female living in one of the rooms. Cats ok. Feb 1st or March 1st move in date flexible.

Loon Mountain
5 bedroom condo avail for rent. Located at base of mountain. Includes free access to spa, health club, hot tub and pools. Wonderful family setting, perfect and affordable. Please call 508-858-9014 for more info.

One bedroom $440 per month
Rent $440 month Rebate $100 off first rent payment Security deposit 1 month Category Room for Rent Listed by Roommate Available 2/23/07 (flexible) to Open Renew lease Maybe Rental Type Apartment Bedrooms Studio , Available 1 Please call us 201-845-7300

Provincetown-Sandcastle Res
$700 for a week at the Sandcastle Resort, unit on 2nd floor overlooking pool, check in (Sat.)September 22 to check out (Sat.)September 29, 2007. Sleeps 4, kitchenette, full bath. Fully equipped with telephone, linens, color cable TV, half fridge, 4-burner stovetop, all utensils, dishes, pots, coffee maker, microwave, toaster & table for 4, Beautiful wall of windows. Indoor & outdoor pool. White-sand beach overlooking Provincetown & tip of Cape. Laundry, tennis courts, shuffleboard, and game room. Free parking. Downtown shuttle stops right across the street, runs every 20 minutes for a small fee. Sandcastle Resort, Unit #218, 929 Commercial St. at Shore Rte. 6A Beach Point, Provincetown, MA 02657

TIME SHARE- OGUNQUIT ME
Luxury 2BR 2BA full kitch large lvng rm w/ frplc, private enterance, prvt elevator, pool, sauna & work out room. Can be seen on 2/16, 2/17, 2/18. Sale price $13,750. Call: 781-760-3484

Tired of the Cold?
In beautiful Myrtle Beach! Italian Restaurant, Upscale Sports Bar or Ice Cream Parlor and Grill for sale. Visit www.CordellRealty.com Or call 843-651-2289

Two bedroom$1500 per month
Spacious apartment in quiet location, near public transportation (Readville/Hyde Park) Bright and sunny apartment in Readville (Hyde Park / Milton line). Two/three bedrooms, sunny 7 room apartment located on the third floor of a 3-family house spacious living room, eat-in-kitchen with pantry, dinning room, additional smaller room could be used as an office. Short distance to the Readville travelr rail station with additional stations minutes away. Great location (near rt 138 & rt 128) and quiet private way. Parking available. please call us 201-845-7300

Moving Services

$900 per month One bedroom
A nice room is available starting March 1st. You have absolut privacy, your own entrance, own bathroom and fridge/microwave. This is the best alternative to a studio in this area. Close to everything, such as Longwood, Northeastern or Fenway. Neighborhood is great. Public transportation is excellent. Parking is available for an additional fee.

One bedroom $750 per month
Beautiful four story brick building located in downtown Lynn, MA. Rent is $750p/m 1 bedroom. Includes hot water, new hardwood floors. Laundry facilitie located on each floor and a very high tech security system. Close and convieniently located to bus stops, resturants, shopes and grocery stores. Please call us 201-845-7300

Three bedre$1900 per month
Three-bedroom apartment conveniently located near Harvard/Commonwealth in Allston. It is a short walk to the T and many shops, bars, and restaurants. Rent includes hot water. please call us 201-845-7300

Roommates

Rooms Available

$1000 per month One bedroom
This is a great deal on a 4th floor studio apartment on Hemenway Street Easy access to Boston University, Northeastern University, Berklee campus and Other area schools, shops, restaurants. Around the Block from Hynes Convention Center Station Elevator Building features on-site. Heat & Hot Water included. A well maintained building. Available Feb.1st. 2007 NO FEE

$1150 per month One bedroom
2 Bed/2Bath Modern Loft in the desirable South End of Boston. friendlyed concrete floors, with high ceilings, and oversized windows that cover one length of the apartment. Bedrooms are situated on either side of common room to allow privacy. Kitchen opens up to airy room which allows for maximum space capacity. Large closet in entrance for storage. The bedroom for rent has own bathroom next to room, good closet space, and ample sunlight. Three large windows cover one wall of the bedroom that overlook the city. Lease start is flexible as I am not out of the apartment and looking for someone to take my place. The other roommate is an responsible at Suffolk University and would prefer living with a female. Pets are allowed in the apartment!!!

2 rooms in Arlington Center
$429+ Util avail 3/1 & 4/1 to share with 2M 1F near public trans Call Sam (617) 513-9832

$400 per month One bedroom
Rent $400 / month Rebate $50 off first rent payment Bedrooms One , Available 1 Bathrooms 1 Available 2/26/07 (flexible) to Min 1 year Renew lease Yes Rental Type Apartment Roommates Not given

$600 1BR IN 2BR-MALDEN-4/1
spacious laundry park prof w/cat

$725 per month one bedroom
This is a great apartment VERY close to northeastern and within walking distance of wentworth, mass art, and that area. Close to Ruggles T station. First months rent is due in August. You will not have to pay last months rent. Utilities not included. Please contact me if you have ANY questions about myself, the roomates or the apartment. Also, if you would like pictures!

ALLSTON:
Nice RM in 3 person apt. Nr bus line & green line. $500/mo +utils. Avl now! Nice quiet loc. 617-787-4383.

Brigham Circle Mission Hill
Roommates wanted. $550/mo. 1st, last and security. Pets welcome. Large porch. 1 yr lease. 617-872-4741. Ask for Pat.

BROCKTON
Avl 2/1: $50 incl utils/wi-fi. no drunks, drugs, drama.

DRACUT
Near UMASS Lowell N Campus. Sincere Bi-Div-W Male looking for m/f for roommate. 2 bed condo with fully furnished bedroom to rent queensized bed & TV. Asking $725 per month includes all utility & cleaning service. Note-this is not a personal ad, this is a place for you to live. Ask for Dennis. Cell 978-902-1140.

GAY/GAY FRIENDLY ROOMMATE
All utilities included & Private Parking $890.00/Month. Hi, looking for one gay/gay friendly roommate to share a spacious 1000 sq foot modern two bedroom apartment. The roommate's suite each has a private bathroom (Looking for only one person). Unit features granite countertops, hardwood floors, 10 foot ceilings, bi-level unit to assure privacy. Off street private parking, all utilities included (Electricity, Heat/Hot Water, Gas & High speed Internet. Convenient to South Bay, 93 xway, South End and T-Stops. Sorry, no smoking or pets. Please contact Anthony at (617) 412-1316 or vejigante@aol.com available Feb 1st or 15th. Rent is $890.00 a month.

Hyde Park
GM has room avail. Victorian Home, Fairmount Hill. Responsible, no smoking/drugs. $400 plus to $500 plus. 617-361-3919

Medford
House to share. $400 month includes utils. Washer/ Dryer, some storage, on-street parking. Public Transportation. Avail 4/15. Bruce 781-488-3262

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Need a room or have an extra room you need to rent out? Call us at 800-488-8050.

One bedroom$1000 per month
Need a roommate April to August in awesome Downtown apt I am looking to sublet a room in my great apartment on the edge of the Boston Commons. I am moving to Japan in April and want to leave my present roommate a great new person. He is happy to live with almost anyone. The location is amazing!! It is on the edge of Charles Street in Beacon Hill, 2 houses from the Commons. You can easily get to the red or green line T stations. You will be about a 10-15 walk from most of downtown (Gov Center, Downtown Crossing, North End, Fenway, ..) Its really central. Plus, the apartment is very big for Beacon Hill. Rent: $1000 a month (includes heat and hot water) Dates: April 1st - August 31st Extras: There is furniture and a mattress that can be purchased at a low cost as well. Please call us 201-845-7300

Roslindale
M/F to rent in 3 bedroom house. 1 1/2 baths, w/d, grill and off street parking. 5 minutes from T. $600 everything included. F preferred. Contact Dliv'e @ 617-407-4450.

Two bedroo $700 per month
Two furnished rooms available in large beautiful furnished apartment. The apartment has 2/3 bedrooms, a parlor, a living room, a dinning room, an office/spare room, a kitchen (with dishwasher), a pantry, 2 porches, and a shared yard. I am looking for one long term roommate for one of the bedrooms and a shorter term roommate (3 to 6 months) for the other bedroom. Roommates should be friendly, personable, respectful, reliable and clean. Also should like pets! I have a adorable friendly cat. Additional pets negotiable. :) Thank you, please call us 201-845-7300.

West Newton
Avail. 5/1. Prof. m/f roommate wanted to share a nice two bedroom apt. in a two family house in West Newton. The apt. is clean and sunny with a large kitchen, living room, back yard with hardwood floors and d/w, some storage and free parking. The apt. is close to all stores the commuter rail and bus stops and is located in a nice area. The rent is 600 plus some utilities. The living climate is low key and respectful, please call for further info. 617-859-3310

WEST ROXBURY
Furnished rm in house, incls utils. in quiet neighborhood, near MBTA. $550/mo, 1st & last months rent in advance ($1100) Call 617-325-0898

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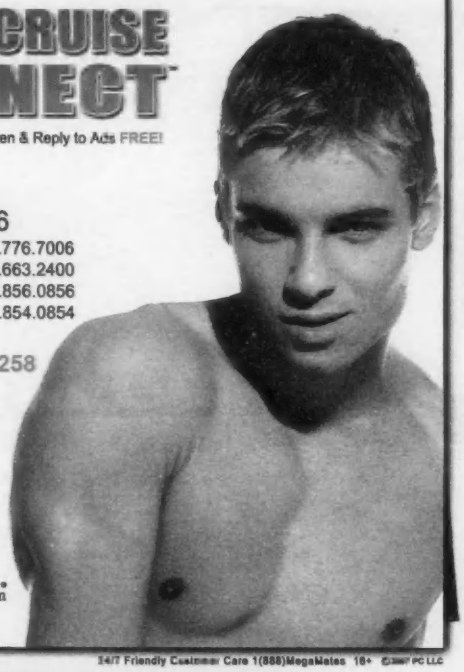

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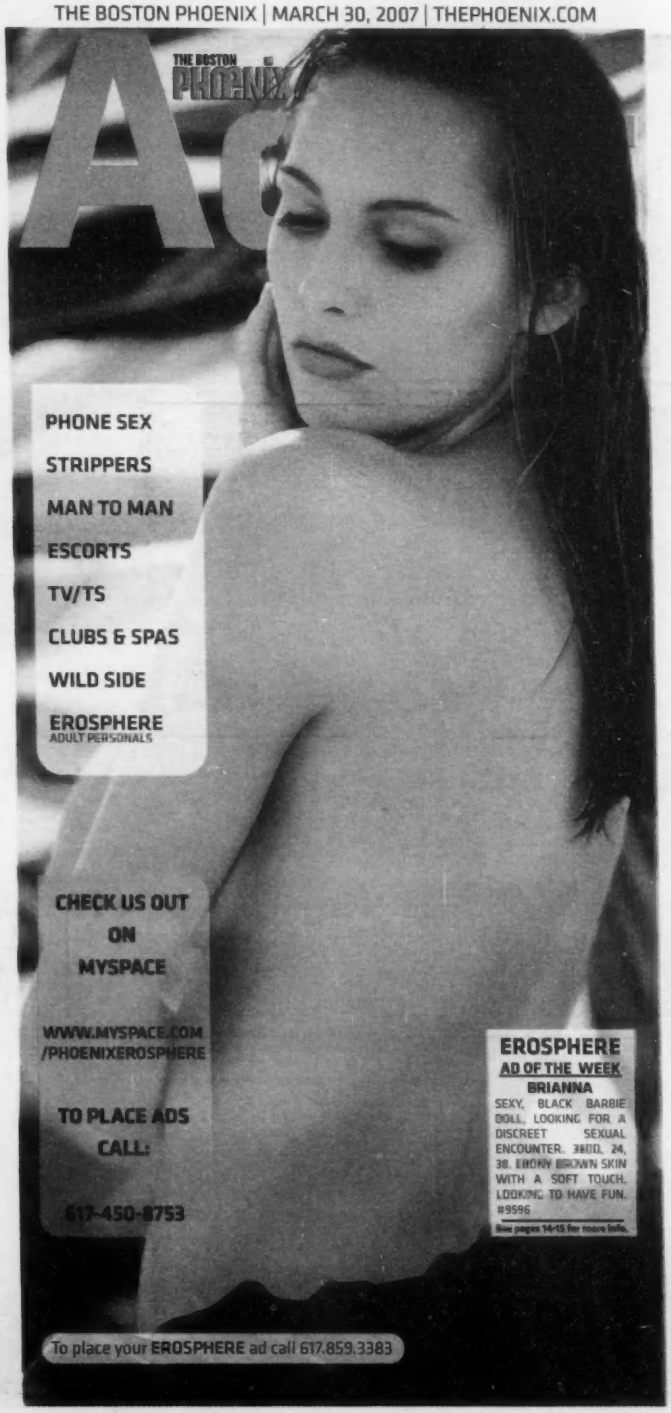

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70324- Hi, I'm Stevie from Beverly, a very attractive passable Single CD , 40, 5'7", 175, Irish/French with long frosted blonde hair and blue eyes, great legs, smooth skin, 36A top, 34 waist. I don't have my own place. I am looking for a Single unattached WM 40 to 65 interested in a monogamous, meaningful, loving and caring LTR.

70261- Older [50's] Gay Male, in the Lowell area, attractive, submissive oral bottom with my own apartment, ISO Guy white tops, 40+, and if you are well hung it is a definite plus.

70214- I am a married WM, 45, 150, 5'6", mustache, North Shore and periodically in Boston, am looking for a bottom to take me to completion.

70219- 6', 220 Daddy type North of Boston, 50's, balding w/mustache, very affectionate, ISO men who are 5'6" or smaller with small endowments like me, who are also affectionate, masculine in public but submissive, even feminine in private.

70222- Italian M from Medford, MA, 54, 6' 220, very masculine, balding, very orally inclined but extremely inexperienced, looking for one M and one M only, must be clean and discreet but your size is unimportant, who wants to receive oral pleasure from someone inexperienced but very enthusiastic and who will learn as I go.

70257- Boston- M, 40 ISO guys 55 to 70 to explore my feminine side. I am very receptive and into lingerie.

70260- Dave, WM, 6', 185, musculine, muscular, looking for guys into giving or receiving barebottom spankings , discipline, punishment and fantasy role playing.

¾o/10/5- Latino, 34, 5'4", 140, light skinned, live in Providence, but work in Boston area, ISO a bottom, feminine a plus, I must travel.

70313- WM from Brookline, 46, 5'11", 140, 7 ½" cut, hairy chest, brown curly hair, clean shaven, versatile bottom, ISO strong dominant well hung guy. I need some discipline.

70357- Tom, 28, suburban Boston, talented Masseur and oralist and looking for an older M to use my talents.

70387- Shawn , MH- Masculine blue collar guy, 46, 5'10", clean shaven, dark hair buzzed, 7" cut, thick and shaved, 34 waist, looking for a masculine bottom. I love oral from head to toe and would like to meet guys 29 -45 for mutual oral during evening get togethers at my place.

70388- Boston- M, 60, looking for mature guys North and West of Boston with time and place.

70408- Mid 40's M west of Boston, goodlooking, and want to be rimmed for the first time.

70410- Boston and North of Boston- M, 41, very submissive and obedient, 5'10", 160, very well hung (9+"), looking to get into the leather and bondage scene, groups and parties with one or more well hung top guys. I want to be a total bottom and give it up.

70419- Dan from Boston, 49 but look younger , 6', 185, lean and athletic, easygoing and very oral. If you are my age or a little younger and in good shape let me get down on my knees and swallow.

70425- Single straight WM, 50 from Boston and you are a big, mean, strict Daddy who would like to give my virgin bare bottom the spanking of my life over my protestations.

70433- WM, mid 50's, 5'9", 230, very discreet, I drive a route in Central MA and Northern RI and am looking for a mature 40+ male, any race for a daylight oral stop and maybe more.

70456- Vince, Italian, 5'11", great shape, good butt, into role-playing and fun.

70472- North of Boston, newly divorced, had a few experiences, looking for an older, aggressive, dominant tops to be taught how to be a bottom. Interested in toys, movies, oral and anal.

70478- I am looking for a friendship with a man between 68-78. I am 48, 5'11", 180, with long hair and am well read and interested in many things. Please be in the Boston area (617, 718 area code).

70481- Southern MA, South Shore- WM, 40's, goodlooking, medium build, very clean ISO other MM's between 35 and 45, clean, cute, discreet and jock types.

70483- Mike, 5'10", 180, smooth WM, Nashua- NH area, versatile, looking to try water sports.

60006- Boston- Tom, new to the scene, totally inexperienced, looking for someone with patience and experience to guide me along.

70491- Boston , MA- Jay, 5'7", 150, black/white mare, 2H, looking for guys to hangout with.

70494-Dan, 43, WWM, from Boston, Mass, 5'10", 170, athletic, clean shaven, 7.5" uncut, looking for someone goodlooking, well hung, 35-45, clean shaven and D/D free.

70501-Peabody, MA- Looking for a guy 35-60 to hookup with for pleasure.

70502- Eddie, North of Boston, prefer older men, 50-65.

70505- South of Boston- Very submissive, 200% bottom looking for well hung tops. I am looking to travel and to be on my hands and knees.

70506- Bob from Quincy, 50, 5'11", rub bottom looking for dominant top, very oral, and I have a strong feminine side which includes dressing up. I am looking to belong to one special man.

70510- Redding- Tony, early 40's, 5'9", 170, 7.5" cut, very oral, prefer bottom but am versatile looking for daytime hot fun.

70511- Pawtucket RI- Joel, 45, looking for a dominant male to share S/D fantasies with.

70512- I am from North of Boston, 39 but look much younger, 6'0", 225, br/bl/ looking to do some partying.

70513- Methuen- 50ish CD, lace and satin, lingerie, heels looking for others to dress up with.

70516- J from Southern NH, 5'8E, 42, 5'10", 190, average shape, nice equipment, looking for casual fun, good conversation, some drinks with a bi or gay male. I am a little lonely and open to your ideas.

70520- Natick, MA- M, 40, love wearing panties and being submissive, looking for a M to tell me what to do, I can satisfy your every need.

70521- Boston- Black M, musculine, aggressive top, 5'9", 170, very attractive and fit, looking mainly for feminine gay males [TV's, TS's] but am open to a nice bottom who takes care of himself and likes to have lots of fun. I am looking for a serious encounter.

70523- Kevin from Springfield, 43, 6'1", 195, br/br, good shape, bi and straight acting, I can host.

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BiM 41 5'9 190lbs. avg. guy 8.5inches. Lkg 4 Bi or gay men 4 friendship and good convrs. Lkg 4 good time. Always hard & want to shoot my hot load. Clean & discreet. Box 67571 (xp4/27)
Fuzzd my ass
Lkg 2 suck a fat d*ck and pump a fat load down your throat. Get your hole wer and pound it deep. No guys 35+. Ph# incl. Box 80381 (xp6/11)
Satin & lace
CDWM 52 into lingere. Lkg 2 meet other cd's for similar rendezvous. Box 46081 (xp6/10)
College boys?
Lkg 4 athletic musc. guys. 32yo great shape lkg 2 hook up with college boys. Box 86041 (xp6/7)
Want to b dominated
John, 33yo WM 5'9 170lbs, great shape you must be 55+ & dominant 6873 5/12
Be OUR playmate
5'9 goates 8cut. Hanging w/ friend looking for a third playmate. Ph# incl. Box 52211 (xp6/4)
Deepthroat you
33 Bi WM lkg 4 a hookup vers btm. Like to deepthroat and get bent over and f*cked . love giving head Box. 77312 (xp4/6)
Super sexy slave boy
Divorced WM lkg 4 bi men or M/F cpe. Lkg 2 be your slave 4 bondage and sextoys. Box 66752 (xp4/21)
Can I be your third?
54 5'11 145lbs. clean and smooth. Live on Cape Ann. Lkg 4 2 guys btw 25-40 like to get head and can entertain weekdays and some nights. Box 74262 (xp5/17)
Dress me up
Gdlkg sexy bi w/ panty and lingere fetish to dress me on the NH/RI border. Box 44982 (xp6/11)
Let's get something going
53 5'9 175 love to get something going on a reg. basis. Willing to give & receive. Box 83012 (xp4/6)
Construction Worker
Married BiWM 31 6' 230lbs constr. wrker. Lkg 4 bi guys into pantyhose & stocking & role play.
Box 73882 (xp6/10)
Sucked & F*cked
60's 5'9 170 gray hair 6 cut clean shaven can host. Lkg 4 younger guy who likes getting rimmed sucked & f*cked. Box 67575 (xp4/18)
Do as I'm told
33 bi WM always wanted to be dominated and told what to do. 8.5cut. Box 77316 (xp4/6)
Bend me over & f*ck me hard
32 BiWM lkg 4 well hung guys in good shape. Love to get f*cked. Deep throat. Get told what to do. Getting bent over and f*cked hard and deep. Box 77317(xp 4/13)
CD On The Cape.
6' 225lbs blonde/blue, clean shaven, smooth. I love role-playing, getting spanked, sucking, and watching videos. Gdlkg and masc but I want to be your girlfriend. Ph# incl. Box 17017 (xp6/1)
Like to make out?
54yo Italian male, 6' 280lbs, balding, moustache. Very masc and affectionate. Rimmed and have a lot of time on my hands. Must be affectionate! Box 17462 (xp6/21)
Bi Guy
Discreet masc biWM, 6',1 190lbs. 7 cut, can travel lkg 4 bi guys. Box 51652 (xp4/5)
Take care of me.
Bill, BiWM mid 46 br/bl 5'10 200lbs lkg4 WM 55-70 that can orally service me on a daily basis. Lkg4 LT friendship/relationship. Boston area. Be clean. Ph# incl. Box 45962 (xp5/3)
Let's hook up.
Chris 22yo lkg2 hook up with someone older. I'm a bottom. Box 33552 (xp6/1)
Got a Girlfriend?
Well so do I! Lkg4 other guys, bi/married guys +. Want my c*ck to be s*cked then i'll go at it on you as well. I am 6' 185lbs nice 7.5 by 5" c*ck. In front of your girlfriends? Box 20812 (xp6/2)
Southern Ri c*ck
28yo, Southern RI, 6', 190lbs, hairy chest 8 inch c*ck looking to get it sucked. Box 38791 (xp4/28)**Steady ass.**
Bill, BiWM 46yo 5'10 190lbs bm/bis. Lkg2 to give/receive oral services on a steady basis. Let's have some fun, watch XXX movies, etc. Ph# incl. In Dorchester. Box 45961 (xp5/13)
Suck & Service You
Lkg 2 party, suck & service. 38yo lkg 4 younger guys. R U out there? So. Shore, Cape. Box 43981 (xp6/7)
Please be 50 +.
GWM, 60s, 6'1, dark hair moustache lkg4 someone for friendship or LTR.

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I like cards, restaurants open to new things. Will return all calls. Box 71781 (xp6/25)
I love men!
Kevin 35yo 6' 160lbs smooth nice body, nice ass. I'll strip for 1 or 2 guys & do whatever you want. Box 41011 (xp4/26)
Love s*cking.
BiM, 5'10 170lbs brn/brn, musc clean discreet, 8"cut. Love s*ckin. Lkg4 a fit male who's clean/discreet. Box 85681 (xp4/26)
Total 100% btm.
43yo btm lkg4 older and very well hung men. Lkg2 please and make love to well hung gentleman. In S. Boston. Can travel. Box 97931 (xp6/26)
Told, not asked.
Derek, 35yo, BiWM, Sweedish, smooth, brn/brn, athletic, 8"thick. Lkg4 older professional men who won't to be told. Clean, sub a must. Box 63111 (xp4/24)
Strictly sexual relationship.
MWM vers top 34yo 6' 220lbs black/darkskin/hazel very gdlkg, no attitude lkg4 strictly sexual relationship. Vermont/Killington. Very clean/discreet. Will return all calls. Box 32921 (xp4/23)
Love to fuck up.
37yo btm SS Plymouth area. Lkg4 tops masc str8 acting, I'm 6' shaved head mod hairy decent build 175lbs. Box 92131 (xp4/20)
I love spandex.
35yo c/c WM living in Boston. I have a nice c*ck and ass, lean swimmers build. Lkg4 an older gentleman in late 50's-70's to enjoy my c*ck. I can put on my spandex and you can lick my balls. Box 68241 (xp4/23)
Aggressive top?
Gdlkg hairy masc Italian, 5'11, 180lbs, buzz cut, 7.5" thick, vers btm. Lkg4 other aggressive dom tops. Boston area, can travel. Box 55991 (xp6/3)
Man to man fun.
Mark, 38yo, 5'8 180lbs, brn/grn, c/c, c/s, hairy, 9"cut, vers btm. Mild to wild fun. I love oral, making out, lots of body contact. Attleboro area. Box 35581 (xp6/9)
Latino top.
3lyo married Latino, 5'4 140lbs, c/s, mod hairy lkg4 a btm. Must be clean and discreet. I live in Prov, work in MA. Must travel. Box 75871 (xp5/4)
F*ck buddies.
S. Shore, 36yo 5'11 175lbs shaved head, mod hairy. If your older, you're the top, if I'm older, I'm the top. Box 32791 (xp4/7)
Fly me away.
Down to earth sexy handsome guy for reg. Discreet hook up near Logan airport. Lkg4 cuddles, showers. With a down to earth handsome sexy guy with a big c*ck. Box 26231 (xp5/2)
Sucking, touching, and more.
Shawn in Quincy. Gdlkg 32yo bi-WM, brown/brown, 6'1 220lbs, avg build, hairy chest/balls, 8". Lkg4 other guys for dick sucking, touching, kissing, and fun. I love the taste of cum. Box 59931 (xp4/27)
LTR after friendship.
Just want to talk and get to know each other. Looking for a btm, in Boston area. Friendship into LTR would be nice. Box 83371 (xp5/29)
Fun and more.
WM early 60s 6'1 240lbs dark hair moustache, like walking going out to eat going to shows. Open to new things. Lkg4 someone 50+ for LTR or friendship. Box 85081 (xp5/25)
Daytime servicing.
Bi MWM, 41yo 5'6" 170lbs lkg4 guys who want to hook up days & get their c*ck s*cked. I like mine s*cked, but not nec. I like to do other things too. Need to travel. Box 12901 (xp4/12)
Low hanging balls.
Bi-curious married guy. N. of Boston, gdlkg, nice 7.5" by 5" 6' 185lbs, nice low hanging balls. Lkg4 gay or bi guy to give me the best blowjob I've ever had. Box 20811 (xp4/28)
Love to cuddle.
Frank, Somerville. 5'5 150lbs br/br mod hairy 8"cut, have my own place. Love to cuddle make out full body massage. Ph# incl. Box 86291 (xp4/5)
Screwing around.
Hot and horny. Vers. Like to get into giving/receiving. Let's screw around. Box 27267 (xp4/12)
Do it now.
50yo WM, clean discreet dom N. of Boston. Lkg4 sub c/d who need good spankings as well as training and discipline. Must travel. Box 33956 (xp6/06)

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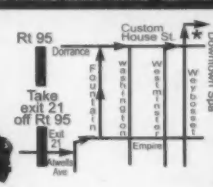

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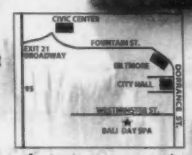

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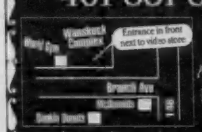

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT

Very sweet, attractive SWF, 34, seeks sincere SWM, 32-54 for regular dates that end with dessert at my favorite romantic outdoor spots where others may watch. Safe situation. Serious inquiries only, all will be answered. Must be D/D free as well as a non-smoker w/no tattoos or piercings. #4089

BACKDOOR BABE

SWF, 29, seeks straight men, 25-55, with average sized equipment that enjoy giving anal. I have a very cute butt and C-cup5. Must be clean, D/D free and straight (no bisexuals or tranny lovers). #6523

BBW DOMME

Exp domme in the Boston area, willing to travel in New England. Looking for older gentlemen who are looking to explore submissive side. I have 5 years experience in the life style. #5939

BEND OVER BOYFRIEND

You think you'd like anal but you're not gay; You just want a strong woman to do you hard today; Your ass is a virgin and it's hot and tight; So you want a dominant woman to bend you over and do it right. I have every size for every occasion and take all-comers, black, white or Asian; I can be gentle or I can be rough just bend over boyfriend and show me your muff! Whether you have experience or not I know we'll both enjoy it a lot. #6521

BODY WORK

For blonde model artiste bi fem, liberal. Mutually beneficial arrangement. Body work specialist. #4931

BRAZILIAN/ITALIAN

I'm visiting Boston for the first time from another country. I have a nice treat, cum and eat in & out. Seeking a man or female who knows how to show an out of towner a good time. @LusciousK #5805

BRIANNA

Sexy, black Barbie doll, looking for a discreet sexual encounter. 38DD, 24, 38. Ebony brown skin with a soft touch. Looking to have fun. #9596

BRIT GIRL

Attractive college student from England, 20's, new to Boston, needing rough, aggressive sex. I'm 5'6, 120lbs, nice body, black hair, green eyes. In need of a big strong man to take me roughly every which way we can dream up. Sex with strangers is a big turn on for me. #6518

EXPERIENCED?

Submissive, shy girl seeks attractive older gentlemen, 30+, to teach me new things. Iim 22, petite w/ long brown hair, tight body. Sick of young guys who donit know what theyire doing & are too quick. I need an experienced dominant man to uncover my wild side. #6522

EXPLORING FUN

27yo female, looking for some fun and to explore what's out here. New to this. @ Calicris78 #5643

HE THINKS I'M DIRTY...

Horny, 35yo MWF who's bored at home. Seeking a man who's into anal. My husband thinks its dirty. Must be discreet. #4908

HOME ALONE

My husband works long hours and is away a lot. I think he's having an affair. I feel neglected and have needs that aren't being satisfied. I've had enough of watching porn and playing with myself while he's off gallivanting. If you have some free time and would like to spend it with a hot and horny housewife then leave me a message. Make me fell like a woman again. #6525

HOT FUN

I'm hot & very fun, heavily tattooed girl ready to play. Looking for someone to bring out the wildside in me. Please be in shape and willing to try new things. #6293

I'VE BEEN NAUGHTY

I'm submissive and want someone to do bad things with me. I've been very naughty! I'm hot, young, clean, & ready for you! #6175

INDULGE MY FANTASY

You come to my place dressed as a workman. You are a big guy with dirty hands. I offer you coffee. You grab me and carry me to the bedroom where you have your way with me. We donit really speak. You leave & we never see each other again. To schedule my service appointment leave me a message. #6524

LITTLE RED SEEKS BIG BAD WOLF

I'm an exhibitionist, attractive, very young looking, into power play, older men, trying new things. Looking for someone who is open & aggressive, who knows how to take control. #6189

LONELY NOCTURNAL GODDESS

Seeks Loyal Consort. I live, work and love hard. I have yet to find a man to keep up with me in and out of the bedroom. If you are up for the challenge, leave a message. #6283

LOVE HEAD

I enjoy giving hand jobs and giving head. Not looking for a relationship just casual sex. Looking for a man who enjoys receiving hand jobs and oral sex. #5808

MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

Fantasy/reality, fetish, S&M, BGD, Cambridge Area, Venesia, my place. WM's & CPLS. 2 Girl show. #4929

MAKE MY JUICES FLOW

New to this and looking for some pleasure. 'f you can make me excited then you can get it. I like to be kinky and lover outdoor sex. Into anything new to get my temp rising. #5946

MALE SUBMISSIVE NEEDED

SWF seeks responsible honest gentlemen that are interested in fun times & fantasy. #6269

MISTRESS ZEANNA

Down on your knees and worship who stands in front of you. I will not hear of your excuses and mindless words. Serious inquiries only. #6274

NEWLY SINGLE

I'm 23yo cutie, looking for friends with benefits. I'm fun-loving & always down for whatever. Looking for some people to go out on the town with and see what happens after. #5811

NURSE WANTS DOCTOR

I'm just curious and looking around for some fun. I'm a naughty nurse who needs a doctor's help. #6295

NURSE WANTS DOCTOR

I'm just curious and looking around for some role play fun. Call for more info. #6117

OLDER MAN

Good looking female seeks, kind, open minded, mature, generous male who's open for an ongoing relationship Sincere replies only- lets talk. #6275

ORAL

Attractive, sexy SWF, 35, 5'5", brunette, nice body, 34C. Seeks SWM, 33+, for reciprocal oral fun, possible LTR. Enjoys exhibitionism. Must be N/S& D/D free. #4089

ORALLY PLEASE ME

I am a sexy 32 yr old MWF with nice breasts and long golden locks. My sex life has been lacking in recent years - I love receiving oral but my husband thinks it dirty. I have a beautiful shaven haven and would love for someone to appreciate it. Reciprocation offered. Interest in possible further sexual exploration. #6517

PARTY GIRL

Sexy self proclaimed nympho, 27, blonde/blue. Men just canit seem to keep up with myl unquenchable sexual appetite. I think about sex constantly. So if you are up for some no strings discreet fun (no jealous possessive types please) then leave me a message. #6529

PORN STAR DREAMS

I am a SWF, 25, 34D, petite, blonde/blue. I fantasize about being a porn star or prostitute and want to take the next step in enacting my desire. I like the idea of being used by a man, or men, for their pleasure. If you're a well-endowed guy that wants a quick easy encounter call me. Or maybe you and some of your friends want to party - gang bangs are things I'm interested in trying too. #6528

ROUGH & RAUNCHY

Rough, raunchy partner needed to screw attractive 23yo SWF. Need a man who can tame all of my fantasies. Whip me into submission. No drama, no commitment, discreet play in the Boston Area. #5204

SEEKS ADVENTUROUS

Sexy Latina woman seeks an older adventurous man, no strings attached, D/D free, physically fit, salt n pepper hair a plus. #2945

SENSUAL MASSAGES

Most of my friends would say I have an easy-going personality. Sensuality is just as important to me as sex. Please be a man who likes touching, candles, and massages. #5806

SEXY CARAMEL

I'm a brown skin bombshell with nice breasts, 40C, big in all the right places and a definite cutie. You won't be disappointed! #6291

STRONG TONGUE?

I need someone who enjoys licking a woman to climax over and over again. SWF BBW who's smart, sexy, confident & funny. You must be crazy for my body, my breasts, my ass & legs. #5807

TAG TEAM

You and your tall dark friend knock at my door. I open it and you both walk in and sit on my couch. I strip for you both and dance a little naked. You're getting hard. I crawl to your lap, unzip your pants and orally pleasure you both. You bend me over the couch and take turns doing me, getting me ready for my ultimate fantasy of double penetration. Can you fulfill my fantasy? #6520

TOWER OF POWER

40 years strong, have you been bad? then you must call this strict goddess, only if you are submissive, can pamper, and need to be punished. #5731

WILD FUN

I'm on the quiet side with a wild imagination looking to explore. Looking for someone open minded, sensual, dominant & willing to teach me. Not opposed to another woman joining. @ readylady2 #5648

YOUNG SUB

Seeking a fun, safe and aggressive man to teach me a lesson. Willing to try most, must be discreet. #4910

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

A LOT OF SEX

28 y/o, VGL white male seeks good looking female for sex. Loves giving/receiving oral. A little shy at first but warm up very quickly. No heavy women. #6238

BACK AND BLACK

6'4, BM ISO oral pleasures from women, giving & receiving. Love sex anytime, anywhere. Anal also included if so desire. Serious inquiries only. #6280

ECSTATIC MASSAGE

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EXOTIC ENTERTAINER

35 year old mature BM, exotic entertainer. I'm featuring in some upcoming films and need to safely practice techniques, also hoping to learn new ones. Enjoy the outdoors and quiet nights. #6276

HORNY ITALIAN...

Very cute Italian 33, clean, good shape all around, easy going, fun to be with. Working allot hard to meet people. Looking for sexy athletic women to go out and have some fun! Ages 25-35 race not an issue. #6239

HOT KINKY CROSSDRESSER

Gorgeous face body ass seeking women for play. Love giving oral, into spanking, toys, posing, anal. Please leave a description of yourself and turn ons or desires. #6281

MR. LONELY

Seeking straight or bisexual nympho exhibitionist 25-35yrs old, race open. Pref LTR to possible marriage or friends w/ benefits. into anal & much more. Be slim, D/D free & in Brockton or surrounding area. #6282

SOMETHING CASUAL

Athletic, well built, good looking, WM 56yo seeks female for discreet friendship & more. D/D free. #6279

MEN SEEKING MEN

1ST TIMER

I'm 5'7 185lbs, easy going, very nice, Attractive, 50yo. I like sports, avid golfer. Looking to try something that I think about all the time. Seeking a 30-50yo top to show me the way for the 1st time. Be healthy, clean, discreet, as I am. #5541

BOY BOTTOM

I'm a smooth, wholesome boy next door type, blond/blue. All American jock new to the scene looking for tops to break me in. Can host in S. End. #5207

HOT ITALIAN

Looking to explore different sexual pleasures with different partners. #6287

LET'S BE NAUGHTY FRIENDS

Bi-MWM seeking similar or GWM for fun during the daytime or some early evenings. I'm 5'10, 165 lbs, gd lking, gd shape, clean disease free & well groomed. Love to show off my lrg c*ck & have you appreciate it. I'm vers and willing to try anything as long as it's safe but naughty is ok. #6289

MUTUAL J/O

Southeastern Ma, Rhode island area married guy looking for daytime mutual masturbation at your place. Let's sit back & relax. #6185

NH PLAY

Looking to give some head & receive as well as anal play. I'd like to be held down & reamed. any takers? NH area. #5688

NICE & NAUGHTY

Looking to meet attractive, nice people for fun, mild to wild ok. I'm very versatile & eager to explore. #5803

NOTHING VENTURED NOTHING GAINED

I have a desire to explore the world of TV/TS carefully & intimately with the right person. Let's start with sexy clothes,. role play & satin sheets. #6174

PLAY TIME NOW

I'm curious of bisexual/gay sex scenes, not into bars, looking for causal meetings, no strings, prefer one-on-one. #6596

S&M FUN

Sexually- into dominant/submissive roles involving light s&m bondage, j/o, nipple play, butt play. Socially - like theater, music, concerts, plays, dining out/in, movies, sport events. #6187

SOUTH SHORE FUN

Looking for someone who swings both ways & enjoys women & men. Let's have some fun on the south shore. #6288

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

BI-CURIOUS

Sexy beautiful woman seeking a first time adventure with a female age 25-45. I'm very bi-curious and D/D-free of course. I want to explore my other side with you. #9636

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BURNING DESIRE
SBF who has a burning desire to watch two women make love and maybe join in. Not looking for a lifestyle change, just some fun. I want to know what it feels like to have another woman suck on my breast and explore my body with her hands and tongue. #6190

EAGER TO PLEASE
I'm petite, pretty, DD free. New to this but willing to learn & eager to please. Must be discreet, looking for fiends w/ benefits. #6182

LET'S HAVE FUN
I'm a single mom, bicurious just got out of a relationship and I want to have fun with another female. #5509

PLUS SIZE
WF, 38yo, beautiful plus size, very fem. Looking for another female for erotic times. Any age or size but clean & discreet. No strings. #6274

COUPLES

BI CURIOUS COUPLE
We are a bi curious couple and she is looking for a woman and he is looking for a shemale. We are very funny, very easy to get along and we like to have fun, we are very loving as well. #6294

CPL SEEKS HUNG FRIEND
Fun couple looking for a good friend to play with 3 to 4 times a month. Want you to be attractive hung guy who thinks pleasing a man's wife while he watches is hot. Can't be afraid to join while he gives her and maybe you oral. #6177

FREE SWING PARTIES
Small intimate home. Couples and single women invited. N/S, casual and sensual atmosphere. #8258

FUN FOR HER
Asian couple, good looking haven't done this before but would like to have sexual fun with another man or couple but more for her. She's petite and pretty. #5686

KINKY KOUPLE
We are a young 30's, attractive and athletic couple. Woman has exp, Man has no exp, but eager to try. Looking for Bi man 25-40 who can satisfy both of us. We can host or travel. Please leave physical description and sexual interests. #4909

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL
I'm a 39yo BWF that enjoys being pleasured, I'm tight but can still handle any size, love to s*ck you off. My man loves watching me in action and doing all the things he taught me to do. Looking for a male or female to have fun with me. #6252

WHAT'S OUT THERE?
Attractive couple in the life style for over a year, still learning what we like & dislike. Like to watch at first then when we feel it is right we jump in. No games or drama, just want to have fun. #6173

TALK DIRTY

I THOUGHT HE WAS A MAN, BUT
He removed some silk scarves from his dresser drawer and wrapped one around each of my wrists before pulling a set of handcuffs from the drawer. He gently asked me to remove all of my clothes and get on the bed. I followed his instructions and as I lay on the bed, he took my wrists and I heard two metallic clicks. I tested the strength of the cuffs by pulling on them lightly and the reality of the situation sunk in. I was his to do with as he pleased. Next, he slipped a black satin mask over my eyes and told me to relax as he parted my legs, tied scarves around my ankles and cuffed them to the bed as well. #6516

MY FIRST T/S ESCORT ENCOUNTER
Iid like to share with you my first time encounter with a transsexual. Iid never told anyone about my secret TS fantasies because as far as everyone that knows me is concerned, Iim straight, but the idea of a beautiful woman with a big XXXX is the biggest turn on ever. I wanted to take things a step further so I decided I would hire a transsexual escort. I was spending the night in a hotel on business and figured this would be a perfect opportunity to explore my fantasy anonymously. I scoured the Adult section and picked out Natasha. She looked lovely. She was an ebony Amazon. Tall with C cup breasts and a long flowing mane. I picked up the up the phone and a sultry voice answered. Within an hour or so there was a knock at the door. #6513

ONE LUCKY GIRL
And 5 luckier construction workers. I work at a hotel and itis usually really boring but I had been looking forward to work all day on this particular day. A group of construction workers who were staying at the hotel made work a lot easier to bear. They had arrived to stay with us a week ago and I had worked every night. Some of them were very sexy with hot muscular bodies. Two of them in particular went out of their way to be extra friendly, Adam and Steve. I sneaked upstairs with Adam and Steve. They let me into the room that they were sharing with 3 of the other guys. Adam began kissing me. I moved my head to one side to see Steve watching. 3 of the others from the bar had let themselves into the room. They were the ones that were removing my clothing and kissing my chest. #6512

SECRETARY LEARNS NEW RULES
Cautiously I entered the room. Then the door slammed, and I heard a loud, low voice bark iYou are LATE!i from behind me. It was my boss. He was almost naked, wearing nothing but some strange leather straps around his hips and shoulders. He also wore a black mask that covered the area around his eyes. There was no doubt it was Mr. Darbins. My mouth must have been gaping at the sight, because he said iYou impolite girl, shut your mouth.i Something in my mind (and body) told me to kneel for this man. I wanted his approval. I would do anything for it. #6515

4YES MISTRESS! BY A LOWLY SLAVE
My fantasies progressed to consuming S&M videos and magazines until one day I answered an ad for a mistress seeking slaves. I arrived at her house and she answered the door dressed in a red corset, black fishnets and thigh high stiletto boots. She was tall and busty and her flowing red mane caressed her cleavage. She brandished a crop in her right hand. She was pale with bright red lips and a stern look about her. As soon as she closed the door she said to me in a severe tone "Strip, slave." This took me completely by surprise, so I stayed there for a couple of seconds absolutely still. She quickly brought me back to reality when, realizing I wasn't moving at all, she spanked me hard on the ass with her crop. "I told you to strip naked; are you so stupid that you can't follow simple orders?" #6514

YOUNG STUD DEFLOWERED
My name is Matt, Iim 21 and I'm 6' tall with blonde hair, blue eyes and a smooth well defined bodOSo I roll up to this garage and I'm sat in the car with my shirt off and this older mechanic comes over to talk to me but hels looking at me like hels checking me outOI tell him Iim hear for a tune-up and he says eKevin over there will handle you, gonna wait?i. I say yeah and he said ewhy donit you come inside, I have a TV in the room upstairs that you can watch while you wait so you donit get bored!.... he says he has some videos I might find interesting. He puts one in as he takes off his shirt exclaiming how hot it is. #6511

WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE

LET ME MODEL FOR YOU
I'm a 28yo TS, with 8", small frame, and a hourglass figure. I love to wear stockings and dress in sexy lingerie for you. I'll do what your girlfriend won't, you name it baby. Can host/travel. #4343

MUTUAL PLEASURE
A couple looking for a bi woman to pleasure both of us, & be pleasured back! #6181

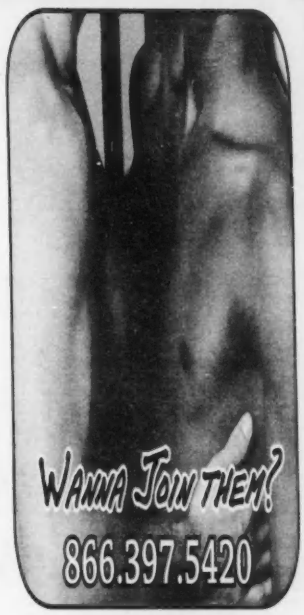
NEW FRIENDS
Curious about the alternative scene. Not interested in men or couples. He's straight, she is curious. Looking for new female friends. #6119

SEXY TV
26yo passable Korean TV, wife, voluptuous and very sexy. I love to dress up in lingerie and show off for you. Seeking an appreciative lover. #5428

STIFF STRAIGHT MEN NEEDED
Need a great BJ? GWM to give great BJ to attractive, clean, DD free straight guys. Rough or Forceful a plus. Have place in RI. Discreet. Give a call. #5740

SWING WITH ME
Will escort you to parties and clubs. Arm candy. Guaranteed results. Will travel. Screened clientele. #4333

THREE IS NEVER A CROWD
We're a couple that enjoy sex & erotica. Interested in having a 3rd (a woman or maybe a couple) to join us to share sensual pleasures. We're fun, kind, insightful love each other and are curious to have some hot fun. #6175



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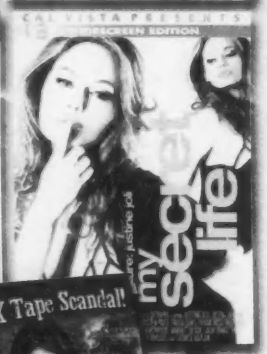

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NORTH KINGSTON–6774 Post Rd. (Rt.1)
PROVIDENCE–262 Charles St.
PROVIDENCE–75 Empire St.
PROVIDENCE–15 Thurbers Ave.
WARWICK–2318 Post Rd. (Rt.1)

PM0072207

Just a couple of days earlier, Mauss had been perhaps the least known person — even among Bostonians — on the Aspen program, which included celebrations for Stephen Colbert, George Carlin, Don Rickles, and the cast and creators of *Entourage*, as well as one-man shows by Steven Wright and Katt Williams.

Hanging out with him that week was like taking a class in the cultural anthropology of buzz. You could see it in the way Aspen's well-to-do quoted his jokes about pussy and anal beads. He couldn't sit down to eat a meal without customers, waiters, and executives approaching his table — respectfully, somewhat gingerly — to offer their congratulations.

"It was pretty amazing," says Mauss. "At one point I was in a fancy restaurant having a meeting with Mosaic, who represent Jim Carrey, Will Ferrell, and Sacha Baron Cohen — and they're interested in *me*?"

After Mauss won his festival award, TV producer Dan Pasternack and executives from Super Deluxe — the new online comedy site from Turner Broadcasting — treated Mauss to a celebratory dinner. "He has the material and the timing of a seasoned pro, as well as that rarest of all attributes . . . a unique and distinctive comedic voice," Pasternack said. "I love what he's doing and I think he has a big future in comedy."

For someone who seems so, well, off-balance and vaguely inebriated both on and off stage, Mauss exhibits a keen sense of focus on what it takes to make a joke funny, as well as what it'll take to ensure that his career doesn't peak with *Conan*. His slurring, ambling speech (with more than a hint of Midwestern flatness) stands out, and suggests a 180-degree departure from the slick, observational stand-ups who followed the Jerry Seinfeld mold. Instead of noticing the humor in others, Mauss pokes fun at himself, his sex life, and his drunken adventures. It appealed to one of *Conan*'s booking agents, who called on Mauss, a week after Aspen, when a band had to pull out of the March 21 show. He auditioned over the phone. Five minutes later, he had the gig.

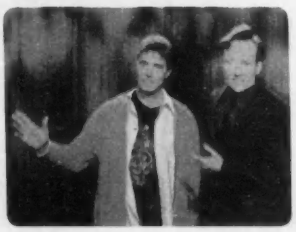
That's all the more remarkable given that, when Mauss moved to Boston from his native LaCrosse, Wisconsin, three years ago, he had never told a joke onstage. The oldest of three kids, Mauss describes himself as a quiet, reserved type who began jotting down jokes when he was 16. He didn't play sports or get involved in school activities or even really pay much attention in class. "No," he laughs. "I smoked a lot of weed."

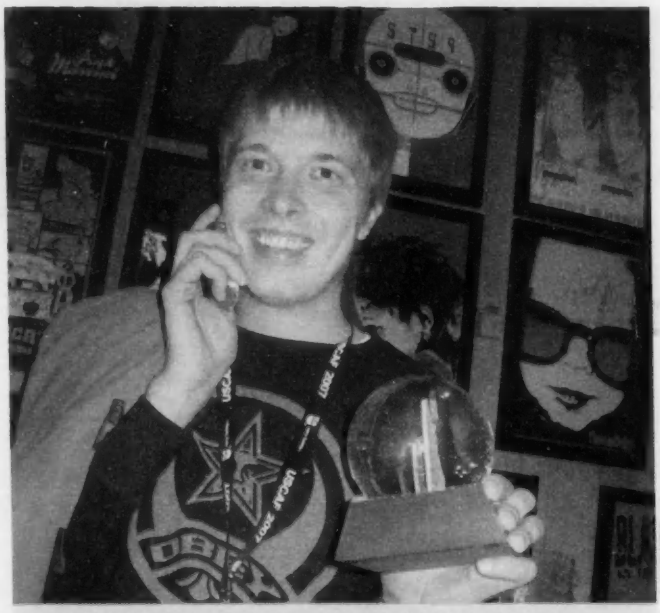
His conservative Christian parents (his father is a countertop maker; his mother, a manager of a health clinic) didn't condone his behavior. Mauss guessed they probably wouldn't approve of his jokes either, which they heard for the first time last week on *Conan*. Performing the next night before a crowd of 20 at the Comedy Studio, he riffed, "My family was calling me all day. 'Congratulations! You really disappointed us!'"

Mauss bypassed college and headed to Boston because a friend of his was moving here to work at MIT. "In my head, I was like, well, I have to get to a coast. You go to New York, and you become a stand-up comic. It's just that easy," he said. "I figured [Boston was] close enough to New York."

His jokes, however, weren't yet close enough to funny, as he learned his first time onstage at the Comedy Studio. "I forgot what I was going to say," he said. His notes couldn't save him, either. "I reached into my pocket. There was nothing there." Club owner Rick Jenkins told Mauss to take a class if he was serious about comedy, so he enrolled in Rich Gustus's program at Brookline Adult & Community Education. Mauss also started showing up at the Emerald Isle in Dorchester to practice. "I'd get one laugh every week," Mauss recalled. Not great at all. But, by the time he finished the class, he had learned to put all of those one-laughers together for a full set of gut-busters.

In January 2006, Mauss hit the stage every night as the Comedy Studio's monthly comic-in-residence, using that time to prepare for the Boston Comedy Festival, which had rejected him the year before. "You have to make your own breaks, it seems," he says.





SEAN MCCARTHY

TAKING IT ALL IN STRIDE Shane Mauss may be keeping his cool, but the past few weeks have taught him something about the cultural anthropology of buzz.

That is so especially in a scene such as Boston's, which is overflowing with both young aspiring comics and veteran headliners who never moved away, all looking for gigs. The region remains fruitful for stand-up comedians because of its huge college-age population, providing both an ample talent pool and ready audiences; a blessing if you want steady work without having to leave your family behind for the road, a curse if you're not an established comic with the proper veteran-headliner connections. Even after his initial brush with success in Boston, Mauss had troubles getting booked.

He clearly needed a manager, and after Aspen, he found one in The Collective's Max Burgos, who also represents Katt Williams (HBO's *The Pimp Chronicles*). He also signed with Douglas Edley of the high-powered Gersh Agency.

Edley, a Boston University grad, calls Boston "a great place for him to grow as an artist and as a comedian." Edley is busy fielding calls from TV networks and movie studios curious about Mauss, but he insists that the comedian's prime objective should be to write more material and to get more experience on the road.

"The important thing is not to jump too quickly, jump too high," says Edley.

THE BIG BREAK

Waiting backstage to greet Conan O'Brien, Mauss posed for photos with his girlfriend, fellow comedian Maggie MacDonald, Boston comedian Micah Sherman, and members of O'Brien's band. MacDonald and Sherman seemed more excited and nervous than Mauss. Even during the commercial break before his network TV debut, Mauss felt weirdly calm. "Instead of paying attention in school, I was always focused on something like this happening," he said.

He remained modest later that night at a viewing party in his hotel room, taking phone calls and responding to e-mails and MySpace messages. Friends joked about his weirdly unwrinkled designer duds — MacDonald had purchased his TV outfit from the Lucky store at Copley Place. They hushed one another when O'Brien introduced Mauss. Afterward, they celebrated with a Champagne-cocktail toast. And yet, after the biggest moment of his career so far, Mauss wanted to show friends another comedian's work online. "This is the funniest thing I've ever seen," he said, pointing to an online cartoon by Brad Neely on Super Deluxe.

Mauss says he wishes the camera had given him a full body shot for the punch line to his act "Crazy Maggie," about his girlfriend's premenstrual sexual openness ("I'm Crazy Maggie and I'm giving it away!"). But he really wished he could've plugged his home club, the Comedy Studio. Instead, O'Brien promoted Mauss's upcoming appearance in June on Long Island — something the club wanted in exchange for booking Mauss. "I wanted to surprise Rick (Jenkins) with that," he said. "That was my first taste of what show business is about. I was like, *what*?"

Even as he navigates these shocks, Mauss has big plans for the future.

"I had a great idea the other day. I think I'm going to be rich. It's for a bumper sticker that just says on it: 'I am a child molester.' I'm going to sell a lot of those!" he said. "No? Oh, maybe I should explain, sorry, the bumper sticker. You don't put it on *your* car. That'd be stupid!" ⊙

Shane Mauss will be opening for John Heffron at the Comedy Connection in Boston April 25 to 28. You can also see him in Boston on April 7 at the Boston Center for the Arts, and on April 8 at The Vault in Remington's. Sean L. McCarthy can be reached at seanlmaccarthy@yahoo.com.

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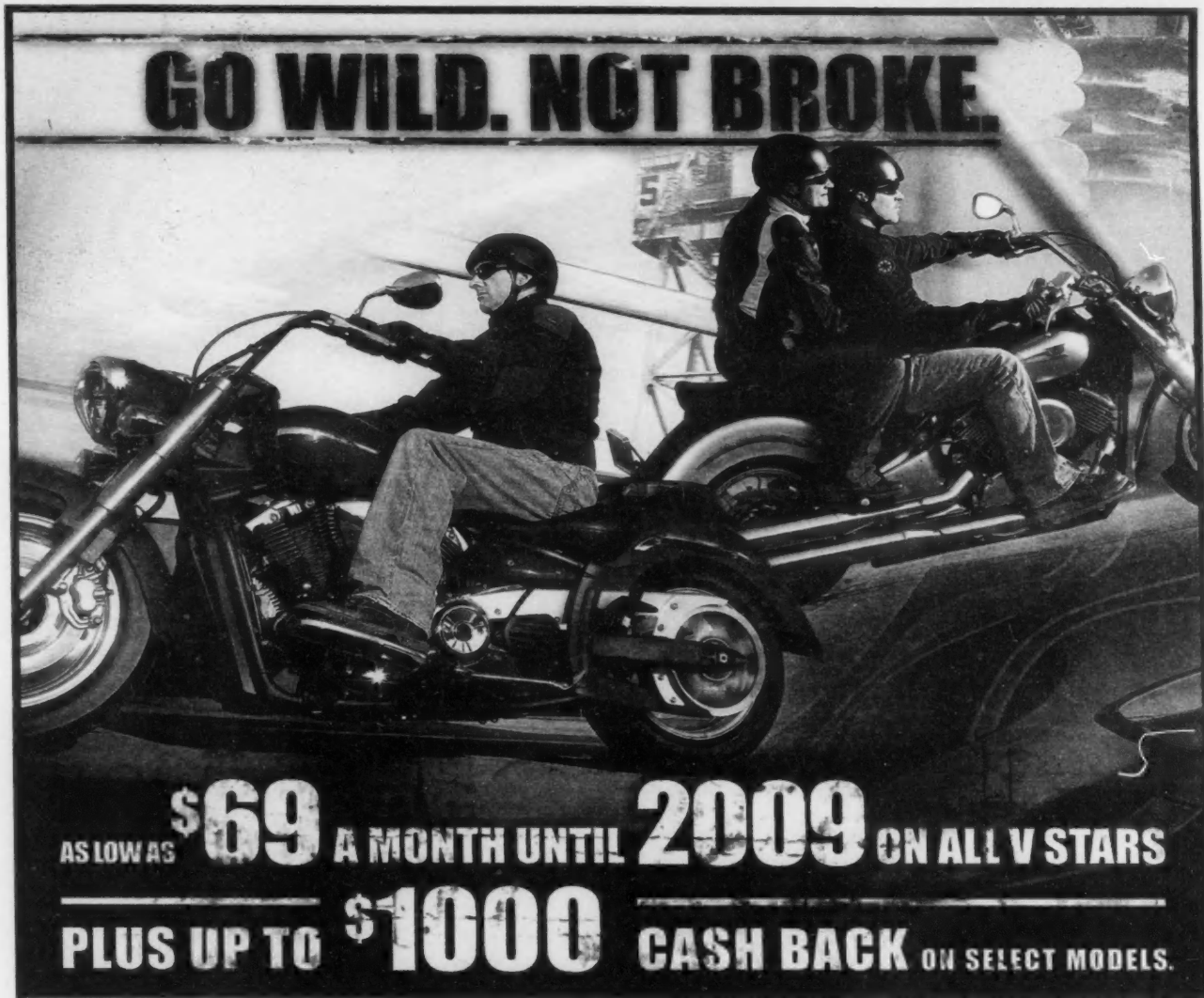

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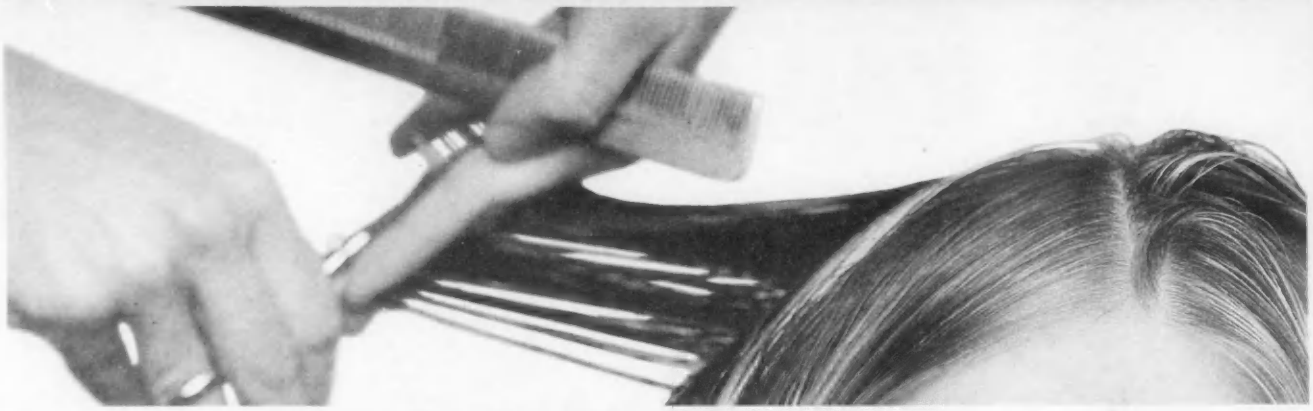

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CHEAP CHIC

FORGET $200 HAIRCUTS. BOSTON'S "CHEAP BASTARD" TEACHES YOU HOW TO GET YOUR HAIR, AND PRICE TAG, CUT AT THE BEST SALONS IN TOWN.

_BY KRIS FRIESWICK

Some of the top salons in the city — salons that charge up to $200 for a cut and blow-dry — actually give away their services once or twice a week. Although newly hired salon stylists have met basic training and licensing requirements, they must still be taught the salon's signature techniques and styles — and even experienced stylists need ongoing training. They have to practice on someone's hair, and if you volunteer to be a hair model, that someone could be you — and you'll get your cut free or dirt cheap. If that sounds a bit risky, don't fret: the salon's senior stylists supervise the trainee every step of the way. So you won't leave in shock (leaving in shock is for people who pay full price!). You might be required to stay for an entire trainee class, which could be two or more hours, and women volunteers are generally in higher demand than men. You also won't get a whole lot of say in the style — you'll get whatever is being taught that day. But if you're open to new things, this is definitely the way to go. Unless otherwise stated, services are free. If you don't see your favorite salon listed, call them directly and ask — most have training nights from time to time.

DELLARIA SALON
623 COMM AVE (KENMORE SQUARE)
617.262.8750

DELLARIA DAY SPA
1148 CENTRE STREET (NEWTON CENTRE)
NEWTON
617.527.8155
DELLARIA.COM

This salon dynasty began in Boston, and they actively train their stylists at both their Kenmore Square and Newton Centre locations. Training happens in Kenmore Square on Monday nights at 5:30 pm (cut and blow-dry for longer hair) and 6:30 pm (for short-hair barbering). Get your name on the list by calling the salon. Coloring is available at the Newton Centre location on Monday nights, but models must be there by 2 pm to be evaluated for that night's class. Call the Newton location to get your name on the list.

HIGHLIGHTS SALON
286 NEWBURY STREET
617.247.8200

This friendly salon uses lots of volunteers, so call and let them know what you're looking for. They'll match you with a stylist, who will call you to get more information about your hair. Salon training takes place on Wednesday nights at 7 pm.

I SOCI
8 NEWBURY STREET, THIRD FLOOR
617.867.9484
ISOCISALON.COM
ANNE@ISOCISALON.COM

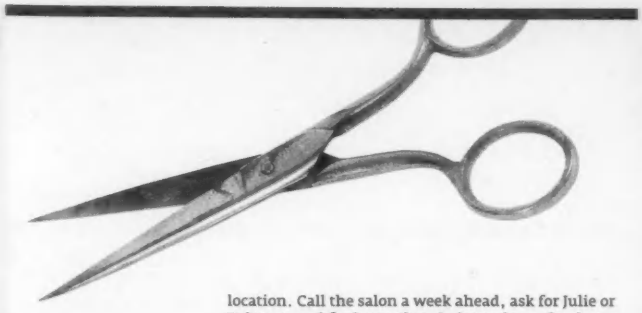
I Soci is an edgy salon that isn't afraid to push the envelope. It holds its employee education sessions every Tuesday at 5 pm, and they need volunteers for both cuts and color. E-mail the salon if you're interested; include your name, phone number, and a description of your hair (color; short or long), and the services you want. Models are chosen on a first-come, first-served basis. The salon will contact you when an opening becomes available.

JAMES JOSEPH SALON
30 NEWBURY STREET
617.266.7222
JAMESJOSEPHSALON.COM

JAMES JOSEPH STUDIO
168 NEWBURY STREET
617.266.6600
JAMESJOSEPHSTUDIO.COM

Cut and color apprentice training takes place at this award-winning salon twice a week, on Tuesday and Wednesday at around 6 pm. Cuts, including blow-dry, are $10, and coloring is $25. There's also a special blowout training session on Monday, which costs models $5 and takes place at the 168 Newbury Street studio

SALON PHOTOS BY ANDREW FIRESTONE, EXCEPT SUPERCUTS



location. Call the salon a week ahead, ask for Julie or Rebecca, and find out what their needs are for the upcoming class.

JEREL ROBERTS STYLISTS
138 NEWBURY STREET
617.536.4443
JERELROBERTS.COM
This salon holds its training sessions on Tuesday nights beginning around 4 pm. Cuts are free, and coloring is never more than $15. Call Darla Kossack at the salon to let them know you and your hair are available.

LIQUID HAIR STUDIOS
640 TREMONT STREET
617.425.4848
LIQUIDHAIRSTUDIOS.COM
This salon, one of the funkiest in town, is renowned for its edgy style and friendly, funny, welcoming staff. In-salon training happens Wednesday nights at 7 pm. Call ahead and tell them about your hair to get on the list.

RUNWAY SALON
11 NEWBURY STREET, THIRD FLOOR
617.375.0002
RUNWAYSALON.COM
Runway uses lots of hair models and schedules training appointments on Monday and Tuesday at 10 am, noon, 2 pm, and 4 pm. You'll pay $15 for a cut and $20 or more for a color treatment. Sign up online or call the salon and voice your interest. The Web site sign-up form also lists the types of hair models they're looking for that week.

SUPER CUTS TRAINING CENTER
24 MYSTIC VIEW ROAD
EVERETT
617.381.5102
SUPERCUTS.COM
It's a bit of a haul out of central Boston, but Super Cuts holds training throughout the week, and it is in need of lots of models. Just call them, leave your contact info, and they will schedule you sometime Monday through Friday.

UMI SALON
75 NEWBURY STREET
617.247.0770
UMISITE.COM
In-salon training is held on Tuesday nights beginning at 5 pm at this salon, which caters to some of the city's grandest dames. There are a few ways to sign up to be a hair model — sign up on their Web site (click on "model call"), go in person to the salon on Tuesday at 4:30 pm, or call Chrisinda Wain at the salon ahead of time. They'll want as much info as possible about your current hair style and what you're looking for. They'll give you a thorough description of what they are planning to do in the training session before you agree to come. Training sessions last about one to two hours. Cuts are free, coloring is $30.

VIDAL SASSOON
14 NEWBURY STREET
617.536.5496 (MAIN NUMBER)
617.536.0254 (HAIR MODEL LINE)
Vidal Sassoon salons hold their training workshops every Friday at 5:45 pm. The best way to take part is to schedule a free consultation in the week before the workshop. They'll evaluate your hair, tell you about what they're working on in that week's workshop, and schedule you into a training session if it's a good match. Call the special hair model hotline to schedule your consultation. ◉

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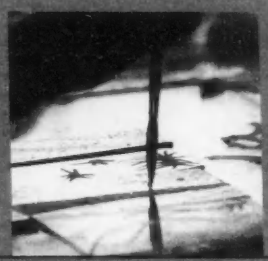

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BY ROBERT NADEAU

Dining Out

OUR RATING	
Outstanding	⊕⊕⊕⊕
Excellent	⊕⊕⊕
Good	⊕⊕
Average	⊕
Poor	⊖

$ = $15 or less
$$ = $16–$22
$$$ = $23–$30
$$$$ = $31 and up
Based on average entrée price

Sagra

Third time brings the charm

BROOK GRIFFIN

STEPPING UP Sagra is better than the previous two restaurants in this space.

This is my third trip to this space in as many years. Sauce and 400 Highland were pretty good restaurants, but crashed on the shoals of ambition or rent. Sagra is even better, with some novel Italian specialties and well-executed classics, priced below the North End standard. Will it last? I don't know, but I hope so. It's still a loud room, with odd but intriguing spaces created by a raised level and three bars. What was art-moderne gray at 400 Highland is now steakhouse-style red and black, with exposed brick and steel beams. The flooring and tables are dark wood, and the overall lighting seems to be improved.

The bread basket holds slices of an addictive focaccia and a good, crusty Italian loaf. The spread is a deceptively light, herbed-ricotta blend. An order of marinated olives ($5) works well as an appetizer or a bar snack, and will satisfy several people. They're done up in olive oil, fennel seeds, and sections of lemon. The knockouts here are the giant green ones, which are surprisingly mild and a good foil for the marinade flavors. Another appetizer option, Arancini di Sicilia ($6), is four deep-fried rice balls about the size of racquetballs. The centers are bursts of meat-cheese flavor, and the dip is a light but clean marinara sauce. Fried-food fiends will, of course, skip directly to the "Grand Melody" ($16), a *medley* of fried things: rice balls, fried potatoes, calamari ($9 à la carte), stuffed olives ($7 à la carte), and stuffed croquettes ($5 à la carte).

On the lighter side, a salad of bitter greens ($7) features radicchio and arugula inside big leaves of sweet Bibb lettuce, and is dressed with an effective, parmesan-cream dressing. Mussel soup ($7) is a fine bowl of plump steamed mussels and steamed grape tomatoes with wonderful polenta croutons soaking up the broth. And Tuscan bean soup ($5) is rich and hearty, based on cannellini beans, minced vegetables, and ham. In Tuscany, this dish would typically have whole-grain farro as well, but this is a well-cooked and delicious soup.

Tagliatelle with mushroom ragù ($13) has the unmistakable chew of homemade pasta. The wide ribbons are complemented by thinly sliced porcini stems, a nice attention to visual effects. Of course, the flavor effects of porcini are already well known; these woodsy mushrooms, served in a light, meat gravy, are superb.

The most unusual entrée is Maiale due modi ($17), pork two ways. Anywhere else, this would be fresh and cured. But Sagra, for its first way, has come up with five spareribs in a style from Marches, in which they are spiced like lamb chops. The other way is as a homemade Italian sausage, but in the peppery style of Abruzzo. The garnish is a heap of peppery and garlicky sautéed broccoli rabe. Lamb chops ($19) also come two ways, but only in the cuts. One is a thick T-bone chop; the other is a shoulder chop, with more flavor but also a little tougher. The garnish here is a kind of salad of soft, grilled red bell peppers, black olives, and fresh basil.

Pesce spada grigliato e caponata ($17) is a nice swordfish steak served on a "caponata" of cubed peppers, eggplant, onion, tomatoes, and the unusual addition of potato. This caponata had too much salt and pepper for me, although the potatoes helped. The seafood risotto special ($16) was made with long-grain rice, rather than any of the famous varieties of Italian risotto rice, but the grains were distinct, slightly al dente, and bound with a creamy medium. Most of the seafood (littleneck clams, mussels in the shell) was added near the end, but tiny shrimp and squid were used to flavor the rice very nicely. Unlike other North End restaurants that jack up the cost of specials, it was priced fairly.

The wine list is almost all Italian, but has no vintage years. Many of the wines are inexpensive, although marked up; so this is less of an issue than if you were picking an expensive Barolo. You may come across something like Sangiovese Merlot Santa Christina Antinori ($28), which implies a "Super Tuscan" blend of French grapes in Chianti country to make a bigger wine than the traditional Chianti. But the label tells a different story: the blend is 90 percent sangiovese (the traditional main grape in the red Chianti blend) and only 10 percent merlot. The current vintage turns out to be 2005, but that's fine for a relatively light, quaffable, and aromatic bottle. Sagra also has a full line of Italian aperitifs, such as Strega, Aperol, and Campari (but they are listed on the dessert menu). Decaf ($1.75) was excellent. However, ordering herbal tea ($2.50) resulted in an unfortunate race to get the bag into the cup of hot water.

There are three dessert options, of which my pick would be the Torta al vino ($6), a nice pie wedge of sweet pastry with cooked-in grapes. Nutella bread pudding ($7) sounds great, but was too homogeneous in texture. You want tastes of bread alternating with tastes of sauce or flavor in a pudding. The dish was stolen or saved by the hazelnut-praline semifreddo on top. A semifreddo is a half-frozen mousse, but this was a light ice cream with a nice hazelnut flavor set off by brickle mixed in. Mattonela di fiorella ($7) is a small layer cake, which the menu compares to tiramisu. It's flatter and less sweet, and isn't going to storm the world, but the hint-of-mocha flavor grows on you.

Service at Sagra was very good. The design of the room, and perhaps the kitchen organization, resulted in a few things coming to the table lukewarm, including red wine that should have been slightly chilled, soup that should have been hot, and a few entrées. This should be easy to fix if the place isn't mobbed. The atmosphere on a quiet weeknight wasn't obvious. The background music was Italian pop, running to Latin rhythms, but the TVs over the main bar and the general design didn't seem to say "Italy" very often, or with much of an accent, despite the provincial emphasis of the menu. ⊙

Robert Nadeau can be reached at RobtNadeau@aol.com.

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These listings have been distilled from our most recent full-length reviews. Entrée prices are rounded to the nearest dollar. Restaurant hours, credit-card policy, and liquor information are not included, so be sure to call ahead.

DEEP ELLUM | 477 Cambridge St, Allston | 617.787.2337 | $8–$16 | Alt-punk sound and appearance, serious about craft-brewing with 22 taps. "International comfort food" menu with real Texas chili, vegetarian lentil stew, French fries so crisp you can't believe it, and a fork-tender Moroccan lamb shank. Bar seeks patrons with same tastes.

LUCKY HOUSE SEAFOOD | 10 Tyler St, Boston | 617.338.9038 | $6–$16 | The newest South Chinese seafood restaurant in Chinatown seems to require the usual secret handshakes and coded rituals for a non-Chinese to get the best dishes, but ask about the live-tank items (such as shrimp steamed to your order) and make a hard try for the chicken hot pot with jujubes (red dates) and sweet roots. You won't be disappointed if you settle for lobster with ginger and scallion, clams in black-bean sauce, or the excellent squid in spicy salt.

51 LINCOLN | 51 Lincoln St, Newton Highlands | 617.965.3100 | $17–$27 | Chef-owner Jeff Fournier emerges from the Metropolitan Club (and a lesser role at Biba) as a creative force, while tagging all the necessary neighborhood-bistro bases. Everything is great, but you must have the watermelon steak, sea scallops, rigatoni "bolognaise," crispy skate wing, and hot apple pie. The chef painted the bold abstracts himself, and the room gets loud, but the food is beyond any distractions.

TARTUFO AT THE BRICKYARD | 90 Sherman St, Cambridge | 617.441.0400 | $14–$28 | Not the most expensive Italian restaurant in Cambridge, and not the most consistent either, but you can dine well, especially on the grilled squid, seafood risotto, and homemade — only get the homemade — pastas. The odd location across from Danehy Park is fun for outside dining in the summer, but sort of deserted by night in the winter.

SASSO RESTAURANT & BAR | 216 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.247.2400 | $24–$42 | The former Blackfin Chop House space has been taken over by the management of Lucca, one of the fancier North End restaurants, so now we can embrace this large, fancy, semi-Italian dining room. It ain't cheap, but you don't want to skip the rabbit appetizer, the lobster entrée, or the soufflé of the day. Fine wines by the glass, too. Dress up and splurge.

GREEK ISLES | 96 Peterborough St, Boston | 617.536.8801 | $8–$14 | Spartan for a sit-down restaurant but Olympian for a cafeteria/take-out place, Greek Isles provides nicely at both levels. Avoid the kebabs and "mixed vegetables" and stick with traditional baked dishes, the superior gyro, grape leaves, and baked lamb. Some nice desserts, too, which are also inexpensive.

PHỞ HÒA | 17 Beach St, Boston | 617.423.3934 | $5–$16 | We thought there was no better cheap meal than the anise-scented beef noodle soup, pho. But then we tried the beef vegetable soup at the beginning of the "beef seven courses," and now we are happily uncertain. Phở Hòa is larger and quieter than its competitors, and does a fine job on pho and the cinnamon-flavored chicken soup, not to mention shrimp in spicy sauce, Chinese broccoli, and anything fried.

FOR RESTAURANT ARCHIVES GO TO THEPHOENIX.COM

PAVA | 1229 Centre St, Newton Centre | 617.965.0905 | $15-$34 | Yet another terrific restaurant in a fancy clothing store — this one next to the Tess & Carlos in Newton Centre. Chef Susan Regis turns out amazing Mediterranean-plus dishes (and the best thin-crust pizzas ever), as well as some new American things, like the remarkable Berkshire pork entrée and super desserts. It's expensive, but a chance to dress up and dine memorably. The servers are dressed in all black, so we guess black is the new black.

LA BRACE ITALIAN GRILLE | 76 Salem St, Boston | 617.523.8820 | $13-$29 | A simple, modern restaurant with impeccable grilled meats, seafood, and vegetables. Plus, cheese polenta to die for, homemade pastas, and token desserts. Small and a little pricy, although the inexpensive gnocchi alla pomodoro is terrific. Spring for the seafood mixed grill or the veal chop with a nice glass of wine, even if it means no appetizers or desserts.

MELA | 578 Tremont St, Boston | 617.859.4805 | $14-$24 | A gorgeous little modern-Indian bistro, Mela has very good tandoori dishes, fun hot-rock cooking at the table, and a solid if typical Indian menu as a safety net. Dress exotic or modern; the place swings both ways. Don't miss the coconut-tomato soup, duck jalfrezi, anything called a kebab, and the rasmalai at dessert.

GOODY GLOVER'S | 50 Salem St, Boston | 617.367.6444 | $10-$15 | Although an Irish pub among all the fine Italian restaurants of the North End is not exactly a percentage play, Goody Glover's takes the points and covers the spread with modestly priced and creative food, some of it authentic Irish, some of it rather clever Irish fusions. The egg roll stuffed with corned beef and cabbage is no joke; the peppered steak is superb; and the shepherd's pie is the real deal. No desserts, but a remarkably cozy pub atmosphere and a proper draught Guinness.

COPIA MEDITERRANEAN STEAKHOUSE | 100 City Square, Charlestown | 617.242.6742 | $22-$45 | The lovely modern dining room with views of the new Zakim Bridge has food, wine, and prices to match. Chef and co-owner Anthony Caturano has put in a solid Italian core menu, and the wood grill, oven, and rotisserie turn out some fine meats (and poultry and fish). Get your veggies at the appetizer/salad level, as the side dishes need work, but the zucchini-mint frittata are terrific, and desserts are just fine.

ANISE | 1 Kendall Square, Building 300, Cambridge | 617.577.8668 | $13-$23 | For years, we've wanted a more upscale Chinese restaurant with authentic food and nothing but. Now that we have that in Anise, we're not so sure. The menu is spotty, although anyone will be pleased with the green beans with Sichuan black pickles, spareribs, dumplings in spicy sauce, gong bao chicken (at lunch), and most of the fish dishes. Spicy can mean incendiary in this cuisine, so count those silhouettes carefully, and use rice for contrast. One plus: the uncompromising menu has kept away the crowds.

PETIT ROBERT BISTRO | 480 Columbus Ave, Boston | 617.867.0600 | $14-$20 | Like its Kenmore Square sister, the second Petit Robert features moderate prices and a remarkably conservative pan-French menu. If it weren't such a nostalgia trip, it could be entry-level fine dining, since this is where people came in with Julia Child: a trio of pâtés (the vegan one is the best), liver and onions, swordfish with Béarnaise sauce, chocolate mousse, and order-ahead soufflé for dessert. Put on a beret and demand Edith Piaf for background music.

TASTE BUD

It sure ain't kosher, but it's gotta be tasty: on April 3, **CRAIGIE STREET BISTROT** (5 Craigie Street, Cambridge) presents Pigs in Zen, its second annual whole-hog dinner. The six-course menu includes ragù of Spanish octopus and pigs' tails, confit of Vermont organic suckling pig, and pepper-and-spice-cured pork belly. The cost is $95; add $40 for a "swine/wine pairing" (or order your wine à la carte off the regular menu). Reservations are requested; call 617.497.5511. Oink.

ZOE'S GOURMET CHINESE CUISINE | 92 Harvard St, Brookline | 617.731.9778 | $6-$16 | All the exciting, highly spiced dishes of the Somerville Zoe's, served in a larger, nicer space. Still, this is a rather poor restaurant for your children or anyone looking for familiar Chinese-American dishes. To avoid spice, try the lions-head meatballs, chopped pork ribs in house special sauce, and the daily stir-fried vegetables; don't neglect your excellent white rice.

BIN 26 ENOTECA | 26 Charles St, Boston | 617.723.5939 | $12-$26 | An enoteca is a place to taste wine, and the brother-sister team from Lala Rokh has assembled a 26-page wine list organized by grapes, with some weird ones that even our critic had never tasted. The food more than holds its own, especially the surprisingly wine-friendly speck, monkfish with a coffee-curry sauce, cocoa tagliatelle with wild mushrooms, and strawberry milles feuilles. Small and loud enough to dress casually, but weird enough to wear something unusual. The operative word is "fun."

BOUCHÉE | 159 Newbury St, Boston | 617.450.4343 | $18-$36 | This is the 32nd restaurant for the Back Bay Restaurant Group, but their first with a French turn-of-the-century saloon theme. They do it rather well, with only a few extraneous logos, a bit of over-salting, and a stereotypical menu that gives away the game. You'll dine well on salad Bouchée, baked raclette, cassoulet, steak frites, and good old chocolate mousse (cake) for dessert, but concentrate on the deep list of French wines. Still, those who have dined well in France will prefer chef-owned French restaurants.

MASONA GRILL | 4-6 Corey St, West Roxbury | 617.323.3331 | $18-$27 | It doesn't get much better than this, and usually not without doubling the prices. Chef Michael Burgess has perfect pitch with seasoning, and lets the underlying ingredients — from skate wings to scallops, duck breast to chocolate to pears — chorus quietly. Our critic couldn't find a flaw and urges you to search for one. Masona can be hard to find if you don't know that the low numbers on Corey Street wind below Centre Street, but it's right off the commuter rail to Needham. Informal, but dress well enough to respect the food.

NUVO KITCHEN & WINE BAR | 4174 Washington St, Roslindale | 617.363.9225 | $10-$22 | When an Italian-style bistro (Gusto) is taken over by an all-Irish staff, the circumstances favor improved hospitality and weakened cuisine. Despite some important exceptions in the seafood and potato categories, that's what happened here. The new place is a comfortable and reliable second choice behind Roslindale Square's three other Mediterranean bistros — unless you order the excellent calamari or mussels, parmesan-crusted sole or NuVo burger, and apple crisp for dessert.

OISHII BOSTON | 1166 Washington St, Boston | 617.482.8868 | $18-$60 | Boston now has an answer to the innovative and luxurious Japanese restaurants of New York City such as Nobu, Megu, and Masa. The new Oishii is expensive, but well worth it for a unique experience. You can have a reasonably light dinner with creative sushi, or a familiar looking one with appetizers and entrées, but you owe yourself the experience of the seared toro sandwich, the saltwater eel, the grilled black cod, and the Kobe beef with red-wine-poached pear sushi. Splendid service, wine list, and sake list. Dress up and make it a special evening.

NORTH STREET GRILLE | 229 North St, Boston | 617.720.2010 | $10-$19 | The kind of neighborhood jewel that would stand out in most neighborhoods, North Street Grille offers an odd combination of fancy bar food and cheap fancy food in the North End. An impressive, economy wine list might make the core of a meal that could include salad with chicken or the "monthly burger," or a fusion appetizer and a seafood entrée with fancy dessert. Get the ratio right, and this rating could jump from two stars to four.

Continued on p 32

HOT PLATE

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Sasso's pistachio soufflé

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Do yourself another favor. When your server brings you your pistachio soufflé and asks if you'd like him to pour warm and silky crème Anglaise into its moist, subtly nutty center, and if you'd like him to spoon a dollop of sweet Chantilly cream onto its golden-brown top, tell him, "But of course."

Do yourself a final favor. When your dining companion takes note of the blissful look on your face as you speed-eat your way through your pistachio soufflé and asks you if he can have a bite, tell him, "Are you kidding?"

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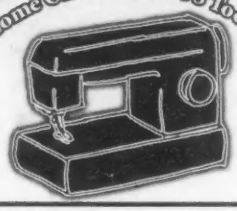

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ON THE CHEAP

LEAH BEN-AMI

The Blackstone Grill

Watering hole, not hole-in-the-wall

While Faneuil Hall is home to some of the most beloved watering holes in Boston, many locals forget that a few of its pubs have top-notch potential as inexpensive eateries. The Blackstone Grill is surely at the top of the list, welcoming guests with its glossy cherry-wood fixtures, flat-screen TVs, cheap finger foods, and plenty of ale to wash everything down with.

Start with some drinks, and then try an order of Illegal Nachos ($7.95), packed with jalapeños, chopped peppers, scallions, and black olives over a bucket-size pile of crunchy tortilla chips smothered in melted cheese, sour cream, and salsa. Potato skins ($6.95) will also complement almost any alcoholic beverage: the crispy-on-the-outside and tender-on-the-inside potato cups are filled to the brim with melted cheese, chunks of bacon, and chive-sprinkled sour cream.

Lunch-time locals frequently flock here for the turkey Reuben sandwich ($8.95), stuffed with layer upon layer of tender smoked turkey, Swiss cheese, coleslaw, and creamy Russian dressing, served with a side of French fries and a dill pickle. Creative types, however, may prefer the build-your-own Blackstone burger ($7.50), served with your choice of toppings — tomato, onion, lettuce, mushrooms, cheese, crispy bacon, and barbecue sauce — atop a thick beef patty. Still hungry? Add a pot of piping-hot Boston baked beans (50 cents) to any sandwich or burger. Blackstone also serves a wide selection of daily specials for less than 10 bucks.

THE BLACKSTONE GRILL, located at 15 Union Street, in Boston, is open Monday through Saturday, from 11 am to 2 am, and on Sunday, from noon to 2 am. The full menu is served until around 11 pm. Call 617.523.9396.

ANDREW FIRESTONE

Continued from p 29

HIMALAYAN BISTRO | 1735 Centre St, West Roxbury | 617.325.3500 | $7–$21 | Boston's first Nepali restaurant, but most of the food here is Indian (and very nicely done). For appetizers, you might split a Nepali momo dumpling dinner, then go for anything from the tandoori oven, the Nepali seven-bean quanti, or the achari lamb. Desserts are rather good, especially the rasmalai. Spicing is mild, unless you look Nepali or request otherwise.

RESTAURANT L | 234 Berkley St (Louis Boston), Boston | 617.266.4680 | $25–$55 | A beautifully dressed crowd, as one might expect, enjoying unexpectedly fun (if sometimes avant-garde) food. The menu changes, but don't miss the soft-shell-crab tempura, slow-roasted chicken with wild mushrooms, and Boston goat-cheese cake for dessert. Economize a little by having beer or sake, ideal with the Asian-influenced food.

DANTE | 40 Edwin Land Blvd (Sonesta Hotel), East Cambridge | 617.497.4200 | $22–$36 | Dante is a hotel restaurant, so the menu has steak, chicken, and seafood. But it's named after chef Dante de Magistris (formerly of Blu), so the familiar stuff is at a whole new level of quality, and there are brilliant explorations as well. For the latter, don't miss the caramelized-onion tart, the basil-roasted guinea hen, the coffee-crusted veal chop, or the four-way lemon tart for dessert. Expensive but worth it, as is the wine list. Dress up a little — the room isn't formal, but the food commands respect.

ALCHEMIST LOUNGE | 435 S. Huntington Ave, Jamaica Plain | 617.477.5741 | $8–$19 | The Alchemist Lounge is a loud, youthful bar by 9 pm, but sneak in earlier to the restaurant side for some fancy touches on bar snacks and serious entrées as well. Try the fried calamari, salmon or paella, and chocolate mousse for a serious dinner; the expensive but perfect sirloin burger and fries for a quick feed.

ZOE'S GOURMET CHINESE CUISINE | 289 Beacon St, Somerville | 617.864.6265 | $7–$16 | A neighborhood gem, but you have to order the unusual Mandarin-Sichuan specialties such as stuffed tofu crêpe; dry, diced chicken with hot chili; lamb with cumin; hot-and-sour sliced potato; or tea-smoked duck. The regulars know what to have, so look around.

TARTUFO CANTINA ABRUZZESE | 22 Union St, Newton Centre | 617.244.8833 | $14–$28 | Somewhat old-fashioned and very well-executed Italian food, served with verve, makes for a roomful of happy and talkative customers. Tartufo's strengths are seafood, sauces, and homemade pastas. The economy would be to skip dessert or wine rather than the excellent shrimp in cognac, grilled squid, mussels, gnocchetti, homemade raviolis, and fish specials.

IVY RESTAURANT | 49 Temple Place, Boston | 617.451.1416 | $17–$24 | Ivy is really a bar with small plates, but the four entrées are all good. No desserts are served, since you're either rushing off to theater or staying to drink and hobnob. It's mostly Italian food here, with salads for the table. But don't miss the Japanese tataki-style tuna small plate, the duck confit, or the home-style chicken Napoli. Flirty food on a moderate budget makes this a first-date magnet.

BEACON STREET TAVERN | 1032 Beacon St, Brookline | 617.713.2700 | $15–$23 | The popular Washington Square Tavern has simplified its concept for this second, larger space in Audubon Circle, and it's more popular than ever with a young crowd that goes for strong seasonings and hearty portions. Great service, even when the extensive sidewalk café is jammed. And if you like smoky chowder, their Maine lobster chowder is all smoke. Pick an entrée with risotto on the side (or a platter with superb mashed potatoes) and get ready to move on for dessert, which they don't serve.

ATASCA | 50 Hampshire St, Cambridge | 617.621.6991 | $15–$25 | Tech Square on the outside, old Lisbon on the inside. The Portuguese food at Atasca runs from pork to shellfish, but don't miss the fresh goat cheese, grilled sardines, and sweet little desserts as you tuck into heaps of shellfish and the best fried potatoes of any ethnic cuisine.

SOULFIRE BARBECUE | 382 Harvard Ave, Allston | 617.787.3003 | $6–$21 | It's all about the meat here, although SoulFire also fries nice croquettes of macaroni and cheese and excellent catfish fillets. Service is between basic and cafeteria-style, and the prices match. The sleeper is hickory-smoked chicken, although the ribs, brisket, and pulled pork are all very good. Try not to fill up without sampling the strawberry shortcake.

LTK BAR AND KITCHEN | 225 Northern Ave, Boston | 617.330.7430 | $11–$24 | Designed to test dishes for the Legal Sea Foods chain, this ultramodern restaurant provides the same fine seafood in novel treatments, and ventures into meat and vegan dishes, fancy desserts, and a larger wine list with much success. When it opened, the hi-tech concepts and service were a mess; go early, be patient, and dine well.

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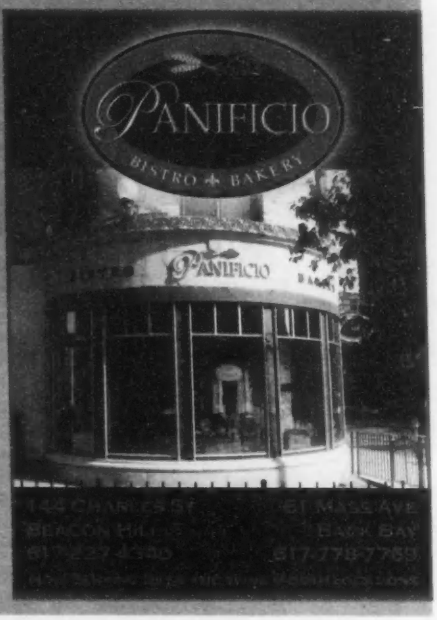

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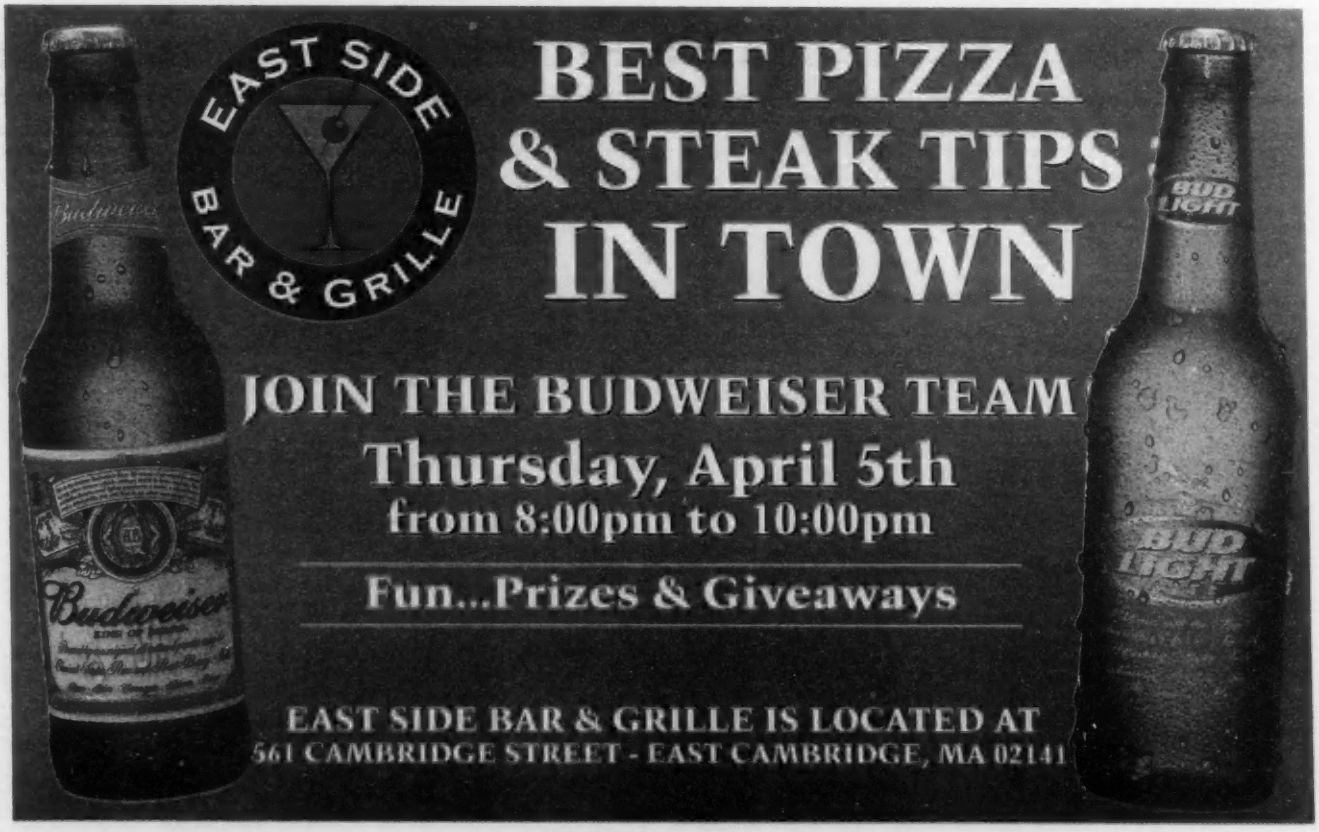

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Thursday, March 29	9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday, March 30	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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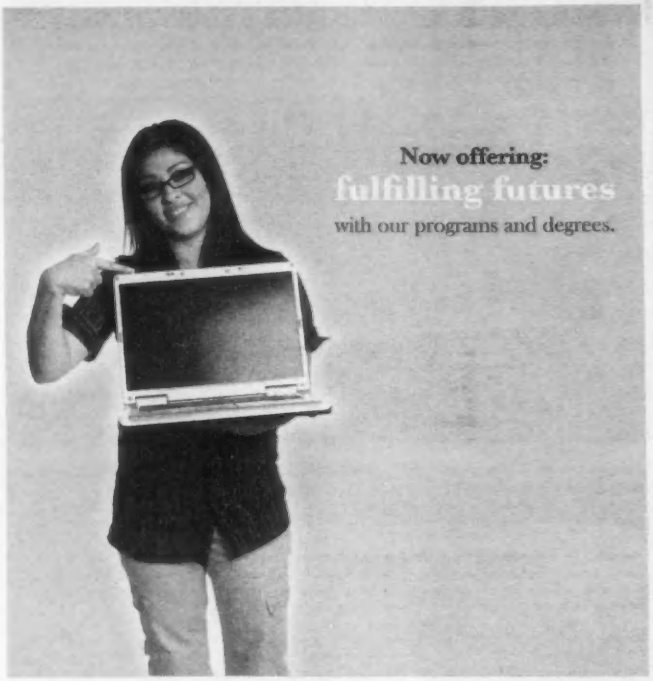

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Celebrate Tomorrow's Innovators
Moving Image Awards Show Hits the Brattle in April

If you didn't make it to the red carpet in LA this year for the Oscars, it's not too late to experience the thrill when the envelope is ripped open and you hear "And the winner is...." You'll get that chance at the Brattle Theater in Cambridge at this year's AiME awards ceremony, celebrating the creative talents of students enrolled at The New England Institute of Art in Brookline.

Now in its second year, this awards show, created, organized and produced by students at the college celebrates the moving image. If last year is any indication, you'll see not only digital filmmaking but animation, music videos with original compositions and more.

The moving image festival started several years ago as part of the Naked Eye Video Club at The New England Institute of Art and has grown so much, the college decided last year to move it to the Brattle. From start to finish, the students are responsible for not only celebrating their peers' work, but for crafting an awards show along the lines of the major television and theater productions.

The categories for this year's AiME awards include: Editor, Director, Lighting Director, Scriptwriter, Actor, Original Soundtrack, Music Video, Commercial/PSA/Trailer, Documentary, Comedy, Drama, Horror/Action and Animation. All work is shot and edited in digital format.

All entries are screened by the Naked Eye Video Club Committees who choose which artists will be nominated in their respective categories.

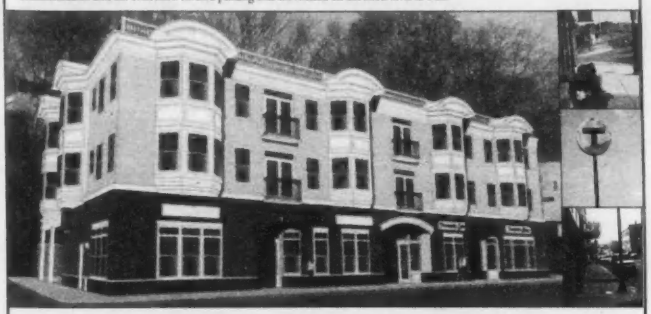
The nominations are then sent to a panel of faculty and alumni who select the winners. The identities are kept secret until the magical moment when announced on stage at the Brattle.

This year's AiMEs are open to the public and there is no charge for admission. Come see the work of students, that is putting the independent back in independent filmmaking, Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 pm. If you want to try your hand at it and someday take home your own AiME, give our admission's department a call at 1-800-903-4425 to schedule an interview and a tour.

For more information www.artinstitutes.edu/boston.

FAIRMOUNT TERRACE – *FABULOUS!*

The curtain rises at Fairmount Terrace. Sleek sophistication is the catch phrase for the newest Landmark in Hyde Park's trendy Logan Square, just steps to the Indigo Line. A combination of craftsmanship and traditional building methods creates a dramatic presence on Fairmount Avenue with four large elegant bay windows bringing bountiful light into spacious units. All this crowned with a classical cornice and balustrade. Luxury condominiums are located on the two upper levels, and the street level commercial space will soon be home to Townsends restaurant and an internet coffee café. A private lobby with elevator access to the condominiums and the concealed covered parking area are located on the street level as well.



The 10 luxury condominiums at Fairmount Terrace are built with meticulous detail and a splash of urban chic rivaling the best downtown offerings. Attention to detail is the hallmark of these units. Open flowing floor plan, fireplace living room, gleaming hardwood floors, granite and stainless kitchens, French doors, bay windows, 9-foot ceilings, en-suite masters, in-unit laundry, Juliet balconies and private rear decks for 'al fresco' dining… It has it all! Not to mention the state-of-the-art money saving energy features of this new construction.

The units range in size from a 900 square foot 2-bedroom unit to a very spacious 1,874 square foot 3-bedroom unit. All the units are one level with bay window, a balcony or deck. Most units have 2 baths. Prices range from the mid $300s to $449,000. A late spring completion date is planned. Now is the time to invest in your future and incorporate your personal décor. A detailed personal information packet is available upon request, or call for a personal consultation/tour.

If you are a city dweller with a love of nature, Fairmount Terrace fills the bill. Just steps to a 13-minute rail commute to downtown and walking distance to parks, tennis, hiking and just seconds to the soon-to-be bike path along the Neponset River (which, by the way, you can view from the rooftop of this beautiful new building). Riverside Theatre Works, a semi-professional theatre is neighbor to this new construction. Hyde Park's burgeoning arts community offers local gallery nights, music and more. It's all here!

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Live Boston Chat

Dating Page online

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

LOVES LIFE
SWF, 55. Enjoy golfing, biking, hiking, walking, etc. ISO S/DWM, 50-60, with similar interests. ☎142496

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE
to find true love, passion and joy. DWF 50ish, blonde/blue, 5'8", sassy, vivacious and curvaceous, seeks tall professional SBM, 44-52, w/family values, and a smile that lights up a room. ☎220367

HEAVENLY ANGEL
SF, 56, the adventurous type, seeking same in SM. I enjoy skiing, the ocean, beach walks, travel local and international. Seeking a fun, open-mindedman who appreciates the same. ☎190684 @ dynamitek

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL
New season, new reason for "new beginnings." Cute, sensual, widowed WF hoping to find romantic gentleman, 58+, for sharing new adventures and "newbeginnings." ☎267095

FRIENDSHIP AND FUN
DWF, 60, 5'5", 140lbs, light brown/big brown, youthful-looking, Italian descent, sociable, fun-loving, employed enjoys dining out(Italian, Chinese),cooking, camping, travel. ISO loving, open-minded SM who would enjoy the same. ☎180709

ARE YOU MY SOULMATE?
SWF, 48, Italian, petite, family-oriented, old-fashioned values, emotionally financially secure, compassionate, sincere, easygoing, enjoys cooking,sewing, travel, gardening. Seeking SM, 42-55. ☎967347

SENT FROM HEAVEN
SWF, 53, N/S, likes reading, theater, movies and dancing, interested in meeting a gentleman for phone conversations, dinner dates, social outings andmore. ☎155412

LOST LOVE
Attractive SWF, brunette/blue, wph, N/S, seeks european, swedish or italian male, 55+, romantic, secure, good sense of humor, that likes to travel,dance and shop, for friendship, romance and more. ☎155576

SEEKS BEST FRIEND
SWF, 26, lives in East Providence, massage therapist, single mom, likes quiet times at home, hanging out with friends and family, beach walks,dancing. ISO honest SW/HM, 21-37, for possible LTR. ☎183103 @ [illegible]

CITY WOMAN
DWPF, 80, pretty, slim, auburn/hazel, enjoys culture, movies, dining. Seeks SWM, 50-63, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎192980

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL
New season, new reason for "new beginnings." Cute, sensual, widowed WF hoping to find romantic gentleman, 58+, for sharing new adventures and "newbeginnings." ☎668174

SMART AND SASSY
Clever, witty, loyal lady, 54, loyal, very fit, adores reading, movies, red sox, dogs, water, and am looking for emotional and physical connectionswith similar, sweet guy. ☎154474 @ smartsassyone

LOOKING FUN YOU
SWF, 20, in college and employed part-time, enjoys movies, travel, skating, travel, swimming and more. Looking for SM, 18-25, N/S, N/D, D/D-free, withsimilar interests and some of his own. ☎168560

I KNOW YOU ARE OUT THERE
SWF, 57, 5'4", 140lbs, brunette, N/S, seeking male companionship, in early 60s. Interests,dining out, traveling, sewing, dancing, dancing ☎181526

A TASTE OF HONEY
BF, 42, 5'4", laid-back, N/S, likes R&B music, watching sports and playing video games. In search of easy-going, honest, SBM, 38-45, N/S, to enjoysthese activities and more. ☎155312

LOOK ME UP
College educated SF, 52, 5'2", blonde/blue, athletic build, healthy, employed, likes keeping busy, cycling, swimming, horseback riding, playingguitar, singing, an occasional night on the town. Smoking compatible, fun-loving guy. ☎179521

CONCORD (NH) CUTIE
Very pretty DWF, 69, 5'7", average weight, very young-looking, N/S, long blonde/blue, great personality, unencumbered will relocate for love, seeks SM, 68-73, N/S, 5'11"-6'2", light drinker, for LTR. ☎180178

LOVING
Blonde, SWF, early 60s, slim, 5'5", outgoing, looking for a loving an honest, outgoing man who enjoys dining, dancing, travel, movies. North Shorearea. ☎287384

PRETTY ITALIAN WOMAN
DWF, 50, 5'3", 116lbs, slender, no children, N/S, social drinker, homeowner, financially and emotionally secure, with many interests, seeks WM, 60+,with similar backgroundal for LTR/ marriage. ☎168151

LOOKING FOR COMPANION
51-year-old SWF, looking to meet SWM, 38-55. I am honest, sincere, loves, dancing, cooking, working out, etc. Seeks someone who has a great SOH and loves the outdoors. ☎899237

RIGHT HERE WAITING
SWF, young 55, 5'4", brunette/hazel, enjoys movies, dining out and the beach, seeking a SWM, 43-57, with similar interests, for companionship, romanceand more. ☎172406

DEDICATED AND LOYAL
Down-to-earth SWF, 47, 5'5", non-smoker, artist, enjoys movies, music, dining out, and beachwalking. Seeking laid-back, easygoing SWM, 35-65,non-smoker, for casual dating, possible long-term relationship. Honesty a must! ☎257882

REAL & UNPRETENTIOUS
SBF, 28, 5'4", graphic design student, punky, one butterfly tattoo, a lot of piercings, searching for male, 25-35, for friendship, possibly more. Race unimportant. Enjoys punk music or hardcore metal, going out and just having fun. ☎110907

CLASSY NURSE
Very pretty, fun, sane, sexy, fit RN, 5'4", 115lbs, brown/brown, enjoys the beach, traveling, cooking, hiking, biking, rollerblading, dancing, red wine, margaritas, pizza, seafood, etc. Seeking attractive SM, 39-48, with a good job and can make me laugh. ☎115527

HONDURAS MOMMY
SBF, 26, 5'1", dark skinned, 140lbs, very outgoing, enjoys fishing, music, kicking. Seeking a SM, 30-50, for friendship long-term relationship ☎154287

HELLO GENTLEMAN
Good-looking Asian lady, 54, enjoys travel, shopping, quiet times. Looking for good-hearted, kind man 55+, to share special times, romance, happinessand possible long-term relationship. ☎157369

SEEKING SOULMATE
SJF, 46, 5'5", slender, easygoing, enjoys dining out, movies, rock. Seeking SM, 43-53, for friendship first. ☎160601

PRETTY WOMAN
Beautiful, educated, slim brunette, 32, seeking successful, clean cut,professional SWM, 30-45, non-smoker, who is financially independent. ☎174283

LOVE A MAN IN UNIFORM
SWF, slim, 40ish, 5'5", 115lbs, blonde/blue, looking to meet WM, law enforcement officer for the city of Boston or local city/town only, 45-60, no facial hair, for fun, watching sports, etc. ☎168318

GUNS WITH SCISSORS
DWF, 68, somewhat interested in theatre, movies, outdoors, art, spirituality. Seeking emotionally aware, politically liberal, humorous man withsimilar interests. Wealth a plus. ☎926274

SEEKING ASIAN HUSBAND
SF, 40, 5'5", Asian, successful, hardworking CPA, single mom of one, not at home. Looking for an Asian husband, financially secure, 36-50. ☎155297

I AM WHO I AM
SWF, late 30's, in the medical field and loving my job. Looking for someone who is honest and sincere, fun with a great sense of humor, SWM, 38-48, would be wonderful. Please be relatively close to Quincy. ☎169707

SBF SEEKS SWM
SBF, 38, educated, attractive seeking intelligent and also educated and attractive SWM 30-45. Must enjoy movies, jazz, and Italian food. Hope to meetsomeone for companionship and relationship. Serious inquiries only. ☎609523

SOULMATE
SWCF, 38, seeks non-smoker, SWCM, 29-39, Irish or British professional, who wants eventual wedlock for children. I'm a shy woman whose likes includeanimals, art, and collecting dolls. ☎117110

ARE YOU SPECIAL?
Seeking nice looking above average intelligence, cultured man, in mid-40's - youthful 50's, 60's. I'm an attractive, personable, creative, nice woman, mid 50's, looks mid-upper 40's. Enjoy art, literature, nature. ☎831542

CAN U KEEP UP?
Attractive, energetic SWF, 46, non-smoker, 5'7", 110lbs, petite, physically fit, blonde/green, seeks SM, 40-65, non-smoker, tan, dark features,honest, sincere, down-to- earth, for long-term relationship. ☎111354

BEAUTIFUL BLONDE
very Sincere, caring, and kind. Seeking honest, sincere, dependable, loyal, decent man, 50-65. Do you exist? You will not regret answering this ad. thank you. ☎476812

A FUN CHEERFUL WOMAN
SWF, 70s, sweet, caring, good-hearted, likes lectures, family/romantic movies and reading. Seeking a gentleman, 65+, with good personality/moral,affectionate, kind, for companionship, maybe more if compatible. ☎177500

FRIENDS FIRST
SBF, 38, N/D, hard-working, enjoys home-cooking, attending church, movies, the park, more. Seeking a loving, like-minded gentleman to share life with. ☎[illegible]

180 GAMES
SWF, 55, 5' 7", HWF, average build, N/S, likes beaches, outdoors, seeks WM, HWF, 50-66, for friendship, possible romance. ☎193121

COOL, CLASSY LADY
Adventuresome SWF, 5'2", brunette/green, journalist/author, loves travel, the arts (Bach to Blues, Rad Sox, to Symphony). Seeks secure, good humored SWM, 50+, non-smoker, healthy life style. ☎128771

MEEP MEEP!
Sassy SAF, 23, 5'4", dark/dark, enjoys dancing and eating snacks. Seeking tall, thin SM, for dancing, eating and snack eating! ☎168567

REDHEADS ARE MORE FUN
SF, 24, 5'7", red/hazel, athletic, shy and quiet at first, enjoys running, skiing and going to concerts. Seeking good-looking SM, with similarinterests for friendship first, possibly morelatership. ☎168562

CHEERY, BEAUTIFUL...
...Latin, friendly SF, brown hair, blue/green eyes, enjoys shopping, sushi, drinking, and going out on the town, seeks SM for dating. ☎168584

LETS GO OUT!
Attractive SF, 22, 5'5", with a rockin' body, big eyes and long hair, enjoys bar hopping and having a good time. Seeking SM, for fun times, possiblerelationship. ☎168576

FUN AND PLAYFUL
Caucasian, attractive SF, 27, 5'4", blonde/green, enjoys dancing, playing Twister and cooking, seeks tall, toned, talented SM, for possiblerelationship. ☎168572

DO IT!
SF, 33, 5'8", brown/brown, great body, enjoys skiing, snow boarding, and concerts. Seeking SM, with similar interests for possible relationship. ☎168581

CAN'T GET ENOUGH
Very passionate SBF, 35, enjoys culture, movies and dining out. Seeks SM, 38-50, with similar interest for fun and friendship. ☎148465

LOOKING FOR A GOOD GUY
SWF, 52, looking for nice, easy-going, fun-loving SM, who enjoys sports, the outdoors and lifes little pleasures, for sharing friendship, fun, laughterand possible LTR. ☎168557

SEEKING RENAISSANCE MAN
Beautiful, loving, sexy, full-figured lady, Georgia resident, 38. Loves the arts and travel. Seeks tall, handsome, kind, positive, N/S, successfulprofessional, 32-63, for hugs, communication and joy. ☎165434

GLAMOROUS LATINA
Outgoing, loving, sincere lady, early 50s, brunette, 5'4", H/W proportionate, enjoys dancing, movies, much more. WLTM loving, employed, nice man,45-62, with similar interests to share something special. ☎120513

ARE YOU MY MATCH?
Attractive BPF, 28, likes the outdoors and the opera. Looking for SM, 32-40, who's in good shape, honest, confident, is tired of the games and readyto settle down. ☎159892

GOLDEN GIRL
Romantic, slim, blonde BWF, 40-something, enjoys music, beaches, dining out, romance. Seeking attractive, in shape 5'/DWM, 43-53, medium-athletic build, for serious, romantic relationship. ☎172769

BE MINE VALENTINE
SWF, 58, sexy, athletic, shapely, educated, LPN, enjoys singing, bowling, walks, fitness, keeping active. Seeking fun, open-minded SW/BM, N/S, similarin age, with great personality, who enjoys computers, and life. ☎172367

GREEN EYED LADY
SO something, fun, attractive, romantic and charming. Enjoys good conversation, cooking, traveling, nature and jazz. Seeking friendship and possible LTR with a N/S, with a positive attitude, and SOH. ☎161978

SEEKING
ASIAN HUSBAND
Bright, pretty, successful Asian woman, 40, 5'5", 120lbs, CPA, mother of one, not at home, loves movies, walks, quiet time. Seeking reliable,financially secure Asian gentleman, 38-50, to get married. ☎140508

STOP, LOOK, AND LISTEN...
...to this vivacious, bisexual senior who loves the beach, boating, movies, quiet times. Winter is coming, let's get together. Don't be alone, just call me. ☎427201

GOOD MORALS AND VALUES
SPF, 49, 5'5", 122lbs, slim, attractive, long hair, sincere, non-smoker, humorous, educated, travel, arts, seeks SM, similar interests. Southcoast MA. ☎[illegible]

SEEKING
SOMETHING REAL
SBF, 50, looking to meet a nice, considerate man who's not into drama or games, to share a happy, lasting relationship. I like movies, dining, longwalks, good talks, snuggling. ☎122251

ONE OF A KIND
SWF, 38, 5', slender, brown/brown, N/S, very talented, seeking a SM, 35-45, N/S, who likes CW music, fine dining, movies and more, for companionship, romance and casual dating. ☎163251

INTERESTING LADY
SWF, slim build, likes camping, science, and art museums, dining out, good conversation, seeks supportive WM, 57-59, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. ☎[illegible]

ANGEL
SENT FROM HEAVEN
Out-going SBF, 35, enjoys drama movies, R&B music, cooking and the outdoors. Seeking SM, with similar interests, for conversation, friendship,possibly romance. ☎145813

SOMEONE NICE
SWF, 55, seeking WM, 42-58 for good times. Please be kind caring, considerate with a sense of humor. I enjoy the outdoors, reading, movies, eatingout, sports, etc. Looking to meet someone friendly. ☎110538

SHORT & SWEET
Petite, attractive BWF, 5'1", 105lbs, blonde, non-smoker, vivacious, sense of humor, enjoys walking, dancing. Seeking attractive S/DM, 47-59, w/similar interests. ☎828306

SEASONS CHANGE...
so should we. Attractive, intelligent blonde, 53, non-smoker, employed, enjoys varied interests, seeks gentleman 55-60, desiring possible life time change. ☎932930

TOUCH OF CLASS
BWF, 50s, 5'8", red/brown, alluring, passionate, cultured, diverse interests. Seeking self-realized, passionate DWM, 50+, 5'10"+, for long-termrelationship. ☎[illegible]

CIRCLE ME
BWF, 46, 5'4", 135lbs, N/Kids, very attractive, non-smoker, enjoys good company/conversation. Seeking S/DWM, 40-50, attractive, fit, and doesn't takehimself too serious, sincere, open-minded. ☎170910

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

LET'S PAINT THE TOWN
SWM, 6'1", dark hair and eyes, 180lbs, handsome, sensitive, sensual, spiritual, fun-loving, Cancer artist with a lust for life, and a passion for hearts, good food, and stimulating conversation. Seeking voluptuous Venus who's is a caring, artsy SWF, 38-45, water signs a plus, to experience all life has to offer. ☎[illegible]

GENUINELY NICE GUY
Energetic SBM, 34, handyman, painter, carpenter, landscaper, jack of all trades, black belt, loves dining out, sports, soul music, traveling,kickboxing. "Kill Bill." Searching for a like-minded woman who always has a smile on her face. ☎[illegible]

MATURE WOMAN
SWM, 49, 6'3", 225lbs, good looking, easy going, clean-cut, nice guy, with good sense of humor seeking an attractive, classy, fit, woman who's fun tobe with, age unimportant. ☎[illegible]

SEEKS FULL-FIGURED WF
SBM, 45, soft, warm, cuddly, athletic, romantic, seeks WF, 25-55, for friendship, dating, and long-term relationship. ☎[illegible]

UNDERSTANDS LIFE
SWM, 53, enjoys sailing, flying, going to the beach, looking for the individual who is not afraid of trying new things. Honesty is the best policy and I have always believed in that. Lets, see where we can go together. ☎[illegible] @ [illegible]

LET'S CONNECT
46-year-old SWM, professional, 5'10", 180lbs, funny, smart, outgoing, good conversationalist. Looking for a lady, 35-50, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎[illegible]

M - Male | F - Female | S - Single | D - Divorced | Wi - Widowed | G - Gay | Bi - Bisexual | W - White | B - African-American/Black | H - Hispanic | A - Asian | J - Jewish | C - Christian | D/D - free - Drug + Disease Free | WLTM - Would Like To Meet

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FILL IN THE BLANK

I wouldn't sell my ***soul*** for a million dollars.

I'm not a ***psychic*** but I could play one on TV.

Fun to be with? you decide...

Love to meet new people, try new things, and develop new friendships..you up for it?

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THE PEOPLE YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO MEET & MORE WAYS TO MEET THEM!
GET IN TOUCH WITH PHONE CHAT, TEXT MESSAGING, LIVE 1-ON-1, & WEB PERSONALS.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

BBW LOVER
SWM, 39, 5'9, 190lbs, unconventional, independent, spontaneous, outgoing, uninhibited, seeking fun, creative, voluptuous, passionate lady, ageunimportant. Looking for friends to hang, party, and enjoy life's indulgences with. ☎110671

SEEKS COLORFUL WOMEN
DBM, 42, seeking colorful woman, the only true Aristocracy is consciousness. Call for gentle conversations. ☎124183

SEEKING MY DREAM GIRL
WM, 5'6", 135lbs, an animal lover, Scorpio, works hard, looking for a woman, 35-58, who would love to laugh with me. ☎188551 @ familymaina

LOOKING FOR YOU
Down to earth SWM, 49, nonsmoker, 6', 220lbs, likes beaches, music, cooking, seeks WF, 35-48, for friendship, and more. ☎119729

THE REAL DEAL
SWM, very young 42, looks 30, attractive, very active, who has a passion for music, and who loves all aspects of life and activities. I have variedinterests and will try anything once. Looking for romantic, passionate, caring individual who's looking for a possible commitment. Age, race open. ☎852783

WHAT'S UP?
Very fun, outgoing WM, loves to have fun, looking for a pretty girl who has a great personality, is fun and outgoing. ☎193190 @ heavnsend

BLACK FEMALE
WM, 40, seeks Black female for friendship first. I enjoy hemain, concerts, the beach, the city. No drugs please. ☎123959

BOSTON/NORTH SHORE
SWM, 55, 5'10", 190lbs, good-looking, nice outlook, well adjusted, SOH, laid-back, pretty liberal, spontaneous, seeks SWF, fun to be with, easy totalk to. ☎137273

HEART OF A LAMB...
Soul of a lion, SWM, 60, N/S, good listener, extremely dry SOH, detail-oriented, loves music and little adventures. Seeking similar female, 35-50, toshare my life with. ☎ [illegible] @ heartsoul

CARIBBEAN MALE
SM, 25, 5'7", 180lbs, enjoys sports, nights out, days at the beach, and having fun. Seeking SF, 21-28 for romance, fun and possible long-termrelationship. ☎141726

HOPE TO FIND YOU
Independent SWM, 76, looking for a nice, easygoing, honest SF, to share talks, good times, travel, dinners dates, friendship and then who knows? ☎141768

SEEKING CLASSY LADY
SWM, 50, N/S, seeks a woman who takes the time to make herself look good, size not a problem as long as you can pull it off, for dating. ☎193440 @ cozz57

BACH + SCIENCE...
and immortality! Create love with one from which there springs wide-love for others? Tender, passionate WM, 50s, tall, slim, enjoys seashores, forests, literature, film, PBS/NPR, Mom/grandmom ok, co-parenting or us alone ok. Idealistic, natural, trim optimist, please grace my dreams. ☎470424

FALL ROMANCE
I'm a 49-year-old, attractive divorced WM. I'm 5'9, 170lbs. salt and pepper with blue eyes. I'm seeking a nice lady, 45-53, slim to medium-build for a hopeful long-term relationship. I love music, working out, traveling, and almost any outdoor activity. ☎ [illegible]

LIKES THE OUTDOORS
SWM, 54, strong, very youthful, easygoing, very adventurous, active, seeks similar female, 40-55, who also likes the outdoors and is active in all thatsummer. ☎ [illegible] @ rdvsixburn

BOOMER
Please call me. I haven't heard from you in a long time and I miss you! Rob from Newton. ☎1512115

FOREIGN FEMALE
SWM, 36, 6', 200lbs, very easy going, seeking an attractive, foreign-born female, 21-40, living south of Boston for friendship first and casual dates. ☎821970

ABLE AND WILLING
SWM, 50, children not at home, seeks a kind and nice woman, 35-50, for dating, friendship and maybe more. Don't be shy step up! ☎196535 @ buttonwheeler

I KNOW YOU'RE THERE
SWM, 35, 5'11", 175lbs, dark hair and eyes, handsome, clean-cut, Seeks SWF, 25-35, attractive, and affectionate, who's looking for a relationship withromance, no games, just fun. Sound like you? Call. I'll make you smile. ☎155498

DROP ME A LINE
SWM, 55, never married, no kids, educated, enjoys reading, movies, traveling and politics. Seeking educated woman, 40-52, with similar interests. ☎ [illegible]

NW BOSTON SUBURBS
Lonely SWM, 61, nice person, seeks partner in love. I am 6', educated and intelligent. Please be attractive, age open, in same area. ☎636650

KIND AND HONEST
SWM 55, trim, very good looking (often mistaken for a 40some thing), kind and good hearted, honest, charming, very communicative, funny and hip; alsointelligent, supportive, very affectionate and romantic. Love theater and movies (mostly love stories and comedies) and being in the city (usually dining out at various restaurants and cafes); Also have diverse tastes in music, (enjoy alternative, folk, "old school" dance and some classic rock). Looking for trim SWF 37-50 who possesses self love and self respect and has similar qualities and interests. ☎112555

JAZZ LOVER
SWM, 48, 6', wine merchant who enjoys live jazz/blues, fine wine and dining out, seeks SWF, 35-45 with similar interests. ☎363454

GIVE ME A CALL
SWM, 40, smoker, likes music, concerts, walks on the beach, cuddling, seeks attractive WF, 40-45, with similar interests. ☎1110733

ONE WOMAN GUY
SWM, 6'2", 235lbs, brown/brown, non-smoker, 62-years-old, gentle, caring, active/adventuresome, fun-loving, SOH, incurable romantic, and spontaneous. Enjoys dancing, dining in/out, traveling, tennis, skiing, cooking, and more. Seeking gentle, caring lady w/similar interests to share all things. Be my partner in crime. ☎113175

GOOD QUALITY
The qualities in a woman i'm looking for are: 1- a good woman. 2- very romantic. 3- humour. 4- no games. 5- likes to go to dinner and have good conversation. ☎936593

SOMEONE SPECIAL
I am looking for the lady of my dreams. Looking for long-term relationship. SF, 25-45. I am mid 50's, enjoys romantic evenings, and going things the spur of the moment. ☎906927

LOOKING 4 GOOD WISHAH
SWM, 6'1 brown/green, 40s, mature, attractive, humorous, financially secure, enjoys dancing, movies, music, jazz/blues. Seeking a fun, honest lady,30+, non-smoker, with N/Kids, older children are OK, who will appreciate a caring, loving, long lasting relationship. West of Boston. ☎1490078

HORSE BACK RIDER
WM, 46, 6', 180lbs, in good shape, jeans and leather type of guy, likes riding horses, seeking very caring, dominantic woman, 40-65. ☎141874

ALL AROUND GOOD GUY
SWM, 45, non-smoker, 5'10", good shape, enjoys traveling, horseback riding, fishing, out to dinner and the movies. Seeking WF, 35-52, who has similarinterests and who's also in good shape. ☎947400

FRIEND/COMPANION WANTED
DWPM, 57, 6'3", kind-hearted, romantic, enjoys hiking, biking, the arts. Seeking intelligent, pretty, slender, active, fit WPF, for LTR. ☎498382

WORTH A CALL
SWM, 56, 5'8", 180lbs, in good shape, loves music, pets, dining, non-smoker, looking for SBF, 40-57, for long-term relationship. ☎ [illegible]

PETITE WOMAN WANTED
SWM, 48, 5'9", fit, handsome, 175lbs, PhD, entrepreneur, English professor, into shopping, poetry, romance, music. Wants soulmate, age open. ☎128585

TO LOVE EACH OTHER
Male seeks female, 18-25, who is loving, graceful, vegetarian, anti-materialistic, and non-competitive. I am going to give highly intensive love speeches in almost 200 nations, around the world over the next 3-5 years. ☎119902

SWEETNESS THROUGHOUT
SWM, 53, 5'11", 180lbs, honest, sweet, intelligent, playful, passionate, loyal, and cheerful. That special person must have similar qualities whodesires a steady relationship. ☎117027

WARM-HEARTED GUY
DWM, 63, non-smoker, very kind, caring, non-judgemental, honest, great SOH, enjoys the outdoors, ocean and more. Seeking a woman, 59-69, with similarinterests, for caring, growing relationship. ☎142820

MEN SEEKING MEN

SEEKING MY IDEAL GUY
SWM, 21, 5'11", N/S, caring, kind, goal-oriented, likes dancing, seeking a smart, witty, handsome SM, 20-29, good listener, for friendship first,possible LTR. ☎179516

GOOD TIMES AND MORE
GWPM, 52, non-smoker, seeks SWM, 35-65, 185-200lbs, husky/well built, for friendship, maybe more. South Shore area. ☎171879

BODYBUILDING & MORE
Lifetime drug-free bodybuilder, wanting to help a guy 18-25 reach his maximum potential: physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. ☎116988

SPECIAL SOMEONE
SWM, 56, non-smoker, likes beaches, fun things, dining out, theater, beaches, seeks WM, 40-63, for possible long-term relationship. ☎110389

PINK PANTHER STRIKES
SWM, 38, good-looking, non-smoker, seeks older, handsome, in shape gentleman, fun-loving, all around nice guy. ☎124452

NO FUN

BEING ALONE
SWM, 51, handsome, educated, enjoys humor, current events, plays, concerts, shopping and country drives. Seeking a SM, 35-60, to share theseactivities and more. Call me. ☎193688 @ BostonMale

HEALER, ARTIST...
thinker? GM, youthful 50, handsome 5'11", 160lbs, HIV -, laid-back yet accomplished, possessed of deep soul, intellect, SOH, into cycling, film,dining, travel. Seeking 45-55 -year-old any race, background, for romance and more. ☎170139

PROFESSIONAL GWM
Gay white male, 45, home-owner and dog-owner, who enjoys outdoor activities, seeking companionship with GM who enjoys the outdoors, movies and finedining. ☎872464

LOOKING FOR A BUD
Clean-cut professional man, 36, looking for the same, 18-45. Tired of the bar scene and ready to meet down-to-earth, masculine man. ☎180615 @ dczdcz

FUN GUY
GWM, 40, non-smoker, seeking friendships, walking, nature, and fun! Seeking a good looking fit guy with a nice smile. Blond, blue eyes, a plus! ☎692929

XXXL
Seeking fat boys for dating, fun times. I'm tired of games and insincerity mixed with curiosity. I'm 34, 5'9", 210, black/green, good-looking. Seekinghot chubs/fat guys/ex jocks 20-50 for romance or pleasure. Secure, Out and open guys with good looks only please. ☎983695

FRANKINCHAM MALE
BM, 48, 5' 11", 185lbs, exercises regularly, seeks WM, 50+, overweight can be a plus! ☎982721

LOOKING FOR COMPANY
GWM 60's, 5'7, 170lbs, gray/blue, good looking, out going seeks GM 40's-50's for friendship. Enjoy eating out, walking, and movies. ☎826125

RIGHT STUFF ONLY!
Classy Italian, handsome, attractive GWM, O/D-free, spiritual, great body, versatile, blond/hazel, tanned, middle-aged, appearance 37-40, sincere, honest, flamboyant and outrageous personality but yet can still be low key, loves theater, cooking, skiing, the symphony, black and white movies, dancing, traveling, the good life. Looking to meet an attractive, sincere gentleman, who's comfortable with himself and not intimidated, who likes the theater, same interests, for friendship, possible relationship. Friend of Bill W's I enjoy fine jewelry, designer clothes, fine cars, fine dining and furs. I'm one of a kind, trust me! ☎939302

BM

SEARCHING FOR GM
Nice looking, clean BM, in my 60s, searching for a younger GM for possible long-term relationship. Be clean, attractive, no diseases. I'm willing totravel for the right person. ☎114172

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

ONE OF A KIND
SF, 47, active, enjoys movies, music and more, seeking a sincere woman, 35-45, to spend time with, friendship first, possible LTR. ☎180408

DON'T

GIVE UP YET!
I haven't, SWF, 57, seeks feminine SWF, 45-58, for friendship, companionship, possible long-term relationship. I'm kind, very generous and very loyal.Please take a chance, I will treasure your call. ☎991581

ADVENTUROUS FEMME
WF, 27, open-minded, I'll try anything once, ISO similar woman, who's healthy and hard-working. Turn ons: dark hair, tattoos. ☎188544 @ emily1269

A NICE SMILE
GF, 50+, seeks same, with sincere, caring heart, sense of humor a must. Looking for that special lady in my life. Stoneham/North Shore area preferred. ☎464291

WILL IT BE YOU
Romantic SWF, 41, 5'3", strawberry-blonde, healthy, enjoys jogging, reading, dancing, animals, dining out, movies, music, much more. Hoping to meet asspecial lady, who appreciates love and affection. ☎985709

GRACIOUS, WARM
A mother, a gardener, film maker/ photographer, a traveler, a writer, you might be any or all or none of these- but if it's in your spirit to be or appreciate such- and much more- let's talk. ☎937829

FEMME WOMAN
Compassionate woman, w/strong values seeks same inner and outer beauty, warm, gracious, intelligent, deep w/moral sensibilities, fun-loving, honest, responsible, feminine lady, 30s, who takes a genuine interest in well-being of others and living life fully and true to one's self. ☎458206

SEEKING OPEN-MINDED
Petite, energetic, full-figured SBF, looking for attractive female, 21-30, race open, for fun and adventure. D/D-free. ☎140944

ADVENTUROUS FEMALE
I have long blonde hair, blue eyes, professional female, business owner, 5'6, 125lbs. Hobbies are bicycling, volleyball, cooking, dancing, and dressing up for a night on the town. Looking for a female between the ages of 30-45 and maybe more. ☎818292

HOPE TO FIND U SOON
SF, 19, youthful, down-to-earth, enjoys dining out, dancing movies, music, laughter, good talks, more. WLTM a single woman 50-69, young-at-heart,happy and full of life. ☎386662

I SPY

GOLDIE LOCKS NEAR BC!
Sa-ay, do I have the job for you! It's great because it's going to be December, January, February and, boy, are we gonna get great tips! Here's the deal I've got my aunts old Schwinn done up for Sunday New York Times deliveries, 140 of 'em. It'll go through anything; snow, sleet, ice, rain, mud, you name it. I can even blow off the cops on this baby and downhill runs on Comm. Ave. . . WOW! Now you have to be the right Goldie Locks. I mean tall, pretty, a nice girl and smart. Plus you've got to have a good throwing arm. There's some guy that never tips me, see, so I start ringing my warning bell about 10 or 12 times when I go by his house. That's about 4:45 am. This chump never learns. There he is in his robe and slippers shaking his fist at me and running across the lawn, even if its' snow. So you've got to hit 'em right between the eyes, if you know what I mean, or it's pedal like hell! When he's hobbled, though... funny!!! Now remember you have to be the right Goldie Locks... the one who knows my name and who I was mean to on the phone when you called and I was sick. Boy I wish I knew your number. It would be cheaper calling heaven than placing this ad, however... Extras: I keep my pockets full of Bazooka Joe at all times. When we finish the route, we head over to the museum of fine arts and read Bazooka Joe cartoons until it opens. Then it's 'p'tooey the gum, have a quick breakfast at the restaurant and head straight for the impressionist room. Half the time, if you take your galoshes off and don't shake any mud on the Gauguins' they let you in for free! Then we stop at the Folk Art room (no one goes there ever) where we can divvy up the tips 50/50 and talk about the quizzical things that us boys and you girls start thinking about when we're about 3 months old and that get more and more quizzical as the seasons fly by. Or maybe to hell with the job and we can just stay in bed and drink tea from little Limoges cups, what the snow come down, and keep the radio real low. I think that might be best. Please forgive my rudeness on the phone, Goldie, and call me again. I promise not to lie to you or to ask you to compromise yourself or anyone else. You think I want any rolled up Times on my lap?! Yow! ☎110003

"let's meet for Coffee"?

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HAS YOUR PARTNER EVER HAD THE MIDAS TOUCH AND YOU NOT SO MUCH?

Tom & Christine
MIDAS TOUCH

TOM: Hey, in any relationship, you're going to have your ups and downs. There might be a time when I'm unemployed and she's bringing in all the dough. But those times don't last forever. So you just have to suck up, deal and get through it together. *TRANSLATION: I'd like to take credit for the smart and thoughtful thing that I just said, but the truth is I grabbed the closest Hallmark card and read it aloud. Ask me a question about birthdays. Or death.*

CHRISTINE: Certainly, there have been times when my partner, no matter how useless I thought he was, just kept getting awards or acceptances or recognitions. I'll be honest. I did get jealous, but I basically bit my tongue. *TRANSLATION: I hid outside in the bushes of his home until he had gone to bed. Then I stabbed all of his tires with my knife using the light from the Marlboro I was smoking. "When you're a Jet, you're a Jet all the way..."*

SHOULD YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR ENVY?

TOM: Well, envy is one of the seven deadly sins. So obviously, you need to get it out there before it eats away at you. Take the time to think about what you're going to say to your partner before you actually say it and then begin the discussion. You will feel better when it's out in the open. *TRANSLATION: I'd like to take credit for the smart and thoughtful thing I just said, but the truth is I grabbed the closet church bulletin. Ask me about next Wednesday's Potluck for Patron Saints Night.*

CHRISTINE: If you do communicate your feelings, do so with tact. There's nothing worse than coming off like a three year-old who wants someone else's toy. *TRANSLATION: Avoid my favorite phrases: You are a poophead. You stink and your mother stinks. My daddy can beat your daddy up. My daddy did hard time. His parole officer comes over for Christmas dinner. I'm taking my Barbies and I'm going home.*

LOOKING FOR ME?

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www.erosphere.com 0327

THE BOSTON PHOENIX | MARCH 30, 2007

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REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS_RENTALS

1 and 2 BR Downtown Salem

1 and 2 bedroom units located in historic downtown Salem. 10 minute walk to commuter rail. Nine restaurants, museums, waterfront and more. $875-$1000 month. No utilities. 1 year lease. 1st month and security due at signing of lease. More info at http://www.witchcityhomes.com/rental/index.html

1 Bed room $775 Per Month

Deleaded apartment in downtown Lynn near the courthouse. Walk to the travele rail. Hot water included in rent. for more details please contact us at 201-845-7300

$1150 per month One bedroom

Rent $1150 month Rebate None Security deposit 1/2 month Category Private Rental Listed by Prop Manager Available 2/26/07 (flexible) to Min 1 year Renew lease Yes Rental Type Apartment Bedrooms One Bathrooms 1

$1650 Beacon St 1 bdrm

One bedroom apartment available for sublet for April 1 or 15 through August. Lease is available for renewal after August. Beautiful apartment with the following amenities: working fireplace dog friendly dishwasher/disposal huge closet with ample shelving very high ceilings hardwood floors huge windows with great light and decorative shutters Roofdeck with AMAZING views of the river (it's worth it for the fourth of July alone. Completely unobstructed view of the fireworks) Building is very quiet, amazing beacon street location, one block from the Charles. I love this place and am going to miss it tremendously. Please call Beth for showing at 978.394.2483 or email at bethabbot@yahoo.com.

9/1- 4bd/$1600 @ Revere Bch

"BREAK FREE" - ONLY 12 min from downtown BOSTON by car or T (blue line)Modern apt. w dbd, microwave,gleaming hardwood firs, bay windows, ocean views, huge e/i kit, brand new KSB, indry & back yard. Less than a 4 min walk to: OCEAN & BEACH, SHOPPING MALL w. CROCERY STORE & the "T" Blue Line./available 8/1 & 9/1, 1st, Last, 1/2month sec. / Come, -RIDE THE WAVE- (617) 787 - 6565

Boston S.E.

Lrg furnished studio in owner-occupd twn hse nr psu/copley. Newly decorated, avail now $995, incl utils. 617-536-1678

~~Condos for rent~~

North Andover

Brand new 2 bedroom, 2 bath units w/hdwd flrs, granite cntrs, fully applianced kitchens, central air, fitness center, pool & underground garage parking. Lease and references required. No Pets. $1,625-$1,750/mo. Call Neal Shapleigh (978)973-7585

Cool & New on Orangeline

Come discover Malden Center - Greater Boston's newest up & coming neighborhood. 160 Pleasant St. is 12-minutes to Boston on the Orange line, and only one-block from the Malden Center T Station. Luxury amenities abound in this beautiful new building. Currently offering 1 MONTH'S FREE RENT on One and Two Bedrooms, and TWO MONTH'S FREE RENT on select Two Bedrooms. We also have a few studios with dens available. We have a fitness center, media room with large plasma screen, dining room to host for your parties as well as garage parking in the building, oversized windows, and magnificent views of Boston. The SMART CHOICE!

HUD HOMES!

3 bed $476/mo! 4 bed $595/mo! 5% down, 20 years at 8%! For listings 800-559-4145 ext 5938

Spacious 2 br Peabody 4/1

Spacious at 1250 sq. feet Private driveway parking for 2 cars Deck Private Laundry Storage in basement 3 season heated front porch Hardwood floors in living room and bedroom Working wood burning fireplace in living room Built-in book shelves in living room Ceramic tile in kitchen Fenced in yard Includes water & trash removal 1 mile to T station Right off Rt. 128 Email slikchik54e@yahoo.com for info.

Swimming Pool & Parking

Deluxe one bedroom- Swimming Pool & Covered Parking Price: $870 per month Deluxe apartment with one bedroom; - located in Ward Street, Revere, MA 02151 - Air Conditioning - Alarm - Balcony - Cable Ready - Dishwasher - Oversized Closets - Emergency Maintenance - Garage and/or Covered Parking - High Speed Internet Access - Laundry Facility - Playground - Swimming Pool - Heat and hot water included - Elevators - On bus line - Public Transportation - Only 10 minutes from Boston http://www.bostonresidentials.com

Two bedroo $1600 per month

Two-bedroom apartment with hardwood floors and laundry in the building. The price includes heat and hot water, and the building is located one block to the T, shops, and more. Great for or easy going responsibles. Live in the building Aerosmith once lived in. Conveniently located on the T and minutes to the Harvard/Commonwealth intersection, a short walk to many shops, bars, and restaurants.

APARTMENTS_ RENTALS WANTED

$1600 per month Three bedroom

This 3 bedroom apartment is located on a lovely tree lined street in West Roxbury. The kitchen has a dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, disposal, trash compactor, washer & dryer and a Jenn-air grill. The dining room has a built in china cabinet. Also included for use is a solid pecan wood dining room set w/oval table and six chairs, beautiful china cabinet and a liquor cabinet. The living room has a fireplace and a full wall window seat. The bathroom has a full glass walk in shower with a seat. There is a very nice screened in porch. This apartment is within walking distance to all major transportation systems, including the travele rail. It is also a 7-10 minute ride to all the major Boston hospitals. There is off street parking in the driveway for 2+ cars.

Studio $1200 per month

Totally Furnished Private Room. Not A Share or Roommate situation. Beautiful hardwood floors, Private bath with shower. Kitchenette complete with hotplate, microwave, toaster oven, coffee maker, etc. Everything included and ready to move right in. All utilities included, except cable & telephone. No security or last month. One time cleaning fee of $75 applies. please call us 201-845-7300

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Beautiful Condo Conversion

Entertain in this Lovely Sunny open-floorplan Great Room. KitchenAid SS appliances w/wine fridge, cooks kitchen flows into dining/living room with gas fireplace and deck for entertaining. Soaring 10' ceilings, High Eff. Heat, on demand hot water. Bamboo floors. Great closets. LG Washer/Dryer in unit. Deeded 12'x14' storage in basement! Right by Yale Electric and 93! Walk to MBTA! Contemporary living in a highly sought after neighborhood. Expertly developed by Bi-Coastal Development, Inc.

Beautiful Condo Conversion

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Condo for Sale in Allston

28 Quint Ave - Unit 1B List Price: $205,000 Boston, MA - Brighton 02134-2501 http://coldwellbanker.com/ MLS #: 70132083 CHARMING RENOVATED SPACIOUS 2nd flr unit in the heart of Brighton/Allston area. New kitchen and bath-well maintained - hardwood floors - high ceilings - newer windows - New roof & heating system - security system - prof manged building. Permit parking. Easy to Show. OH Sun 3/11 11.30-1pm

Florida

Tampa/St. Pete/Sarasota. Beautiful 2/2, Den, Lanai, Garage. Exclusive Gay Retirement Community. PalmsOfManasota.org $259,900. 941-524-2255.

NATURE LOVER'S DREAM

28R waterfront on Forge Village Beach in E. Canal St. Westford MA. List price $220,000 Duplex style condex, new everything: stone cntrs, stnls stl, tile bath. Lrg yard leading to prvt shore, dock your boat here. 30 mins to Boston. Now on market, owner. OPEN HOUSE Sat 3/24 12-4pm. Call Joe 978-392-3608

SUBLETS_TEMPORARY

$2400 per month Three bedroom

Very large three bedroom apartment, hardwood floors, huge kitchen, high ceilings, recently repainted, mantles in large bedroom and living room. Please inquire about parking.

$999 per month One bedroom

Beautiful 3 acre park n front.Top floor Brick Brownstone Townhouse.On street pwg.Large eat in kitchen,w/a large picture window.Bedroom is small though Bdrm has a queen mattress and 4 draw desk).Bathroom big -8 X 12ft.A very nice plush couch+ matching luv seatin Living rm.If U smoke b careful.So far no craters on the couch.Theres a fake but nice looking Orintl rug in living rm.Floor is wood.14" color TV + less than average stereo. Also kitchen is gas stove + microwave.Plates for4,forks,spoons,knives,4 pots+ pans.3 towels one set of sheets +4 pillows,and cases.U can wash them downstairs on the 1st floor coin operated W/D.Important-When are you looking to start and End? One bedroom best for one maybe 2.

Two bedroom$1250 per month

5 room apartment, unfurnished, owner occupied 3-family building and a short walk to Red Line (mbta). 1 mile to beach. 3 miles to Downtown Boston. Condo-to-be, Rent to own! 1200 square ft....$250K with 25K to Buyer at closing for improvements. please call us 201-845-7300

Two bedroom $575 per month

Large bedroom in house for rent and available now. House is on safe and quiet street in Hyde Park, and convenient access to public transportation. The rooms are with hardwood floors, walls, windows all in excellent condition. Parking is available. please call us 201-845-7300

VACATION PROPERTY

$3300 per month four bedroo

Under renovation. Duplex will have New heat, A/C, All new kitchen w/ granite countertops, dishwasher, stainless appliances, new bathroom, updated electrical and plumbing, laundry in unit. Tenant pays for water & sewer.

$700 per month Two bedroom

Two rooms available in a huge three bedroom condo. The condo is in a beautiful building directly on Commonwealth Ave steps to the b line and the 66 bus to Cambridge. Hardwood floors throughout, tons of closet space, foyer and one bathroom. There is laundry in basement and ceiling fans for the summer. heat and hot water included. $700 per room per month, can negotiate month to month rental. There is currently one female living in one of the rooms. Cats ok. Feb 1st or March 1st move in date flexible.

Loon Mountain

5 bedroom condo avail for rent. Located at base of mountain. Includes free access to spa, health club, hot tub and pools. Wonderful family setting, perfect and affordable. Please call 508-858-9014 for more info.

One bedroom $440 per month

Rent $440 month Rebate $100 off first rent payment Security deposit 1 month Category Room for Rent Listed by Roommate Available 2/23/07 (flexible) to Open Renew lease Maybe Rental Type Apartment Bedrooms Studio , Available 1 Please call us 201-845-7300

Provincetown-Sandcastle Res

$700 for a week at the Sandcastle Resort, unit on 2nd floor overlooking pool, check in (Sat.)September 22 to check out (Sat.)September 29, 2007. Sleeps 4, kitchenette, full bath. Fully equipped with telephone, linens, color cable TV, half fridge, 4-burner stovetop, all utensils, dishes, pots, coffee maker, microwave, toaster & table for 4. Beautiful wall of windows. Indoor & outdoor pool. White-sand beach overlooking Provincetown & tip of Cape. Laundry, tennis courts, shuffleboard, and game room. Free parking. Downtown shuttle stops right across the street, runs every 20 minutes for a small fee. Sandcastle Resort, Unit #218, 329 Commercial St. at Shore Rte. 6A Beach Point, Provincetown, MA 02657

TIME SHARE- OGUNQUIT ME

Luxury 2BR 2BA full kitch large living rm w/ frplc, private entrance, prvt elevator, pool, sauna & work out room. Can be seen on 2/16, 2/17, 2/18. Sale price $13,750. Call: 781-760-3484

Tired of the Cold?

In beautiful Myrtle Beach! Italian Restaurant, Upscale Sports Bar or Ice Cream Parlor and Grill for sale. Visit www.CordellRealty.com Or call 843-651-2289

Two bedroom$1500 per month

Spacious apartment in quiet location, near public transportation (Readville/Hyde Park) Bright and sunny apartment in Readville (Hyde Park / Milton line). Two/three bedrooms, sunny 7 room apartment located on the third floor of a 3-family house spacious living room, eat-in-kitchen with pantry, dinning room, additional smaller room could be used as an office. Short distance to the Readville transit rail station with additional stations minutes away. Great location (next rt 138 & rt 128) and quiet private way. Parking available. please call us 201-845-7300

Moving Services

$900 per month One bedroom
A nice room is available starting March 1st. You have absolut privacy, your own entrance, own bathroom and fridge/microwave. This is the best alternative to a studio in this area. Close to everything, such as Longwood, Northeastern or Fenway. Neighborhood is great. Public transportation is excellent. Parking is available for an additional fee.

One bedroom $750 per month
Beautiful four story brick building located in downtown Lynn, MA. Rent is $75op/m 1 bedroom. Includes hot water, new hardwood floors. Laundry facilitie located on each floor and a very high tech security system. Close and conveniently located to bus stops, resturants, shopes and grocery stores. Please call us 201-845-7300

Three bedro$1900 per month
Three-bedroom apartment conveniently located near Harvard/Commonwealth in Allston. It is a short walk to the T and many shops, bars, and restaurants. Rent includes hot water. please call us 201-845-7300

ROOMMATES

Rooms Available

$400 per month One bedroom
Rent $400 / month Rebate $50 off first rent payment Bedrooms One , Available 1 Bathrooms 1 Available 2/26/07 (flexible) to Min 1 year Renew lease Yes Rental Type Apartment Roommates Not given

$516 Spacious room open now
The room is large (aprox. 12 x 14'), with hardwood floors. It's big enough for a king-sized bed with plenty off storage. It's part of a three-bedroom apartment with two non-smoking male housemates (one is a professional journalist, the other an undergrad in his junior year). The location is around the corner from the Forest Hills T-stop and #39 bus and parking is available in the back of the building w/ permit. Across the street is the beautiful Arnold Arboretum and down the street is the historic Forest Hills Cemetery. The neighborhood is diverse and awesome, with fixtures such as the Milkway lanes & lounge and JP Lick's ice cream is a stone's throw away. Utilities include Electric, Gas, and Cable which average out to $50 per person per month. Heat is FREE0I'm not sure how the owners can afford it, but it's a beautiful thing. You'll be taking over a lease that ends in August 31st w/ option to renew. Security deposit, first, and last month's rent required. Ps: Cats are allowed!

$600 1BR IN 2BR-MALDEN-4/1
spacious laundry park prof w/cat

$725 per month one bedroom
This is a great apartment VERY close to northeastern and within walking distance of wentworth, mass art, and that area. Close to Ruggles T station. First months rent is due in August. You will not have to pay last months rent. Utilities not included. Please contact me if you have ANY questions about myself, the roomates or the apartment. Also, if you would like pictures!

ALLSTON:
Nice RM in 3 person apt. Nr bus line & green line. $500/mo +utils. Avail now! Nice quiet loc. 617-787-4383.

Arlington Heights
Large room in 4 bedroom victorianThis is a large room in a four bedroom Victorian house with two 30 something professional woman (not a couple, just freinds have been living together for four months). The house is big with two large living rooms– a large kitchen with a dish washer– lots of fancy cooking stuff, a room of windows off of the kitchen. When it gets warm out there is a big deck with a gas grill- and a decent sized yard. When it gets cold we have a snow blower. A two car garage and a big driveway. There is tons of storage (a basement and an attic). The place is mostly furnished–but more furniture will be welcomed. Has cable TV and internet which is wireless. Has washer/dryer. We split the utilities. There are two bathrooms– but just one shower/bath. We have a guest room and are open to visitors. I guess the real thing we are looking for is a person who is liberal, open minded and nonjudgmental, friendly, has their own life (goes out a few nights a week but also doesn't think we're weird if home on a Saturday night), honest, likeable, fun to be around. I hope that this describes us too. I think with things like this you have to meet and just see if it is a match. So write back and tell us as much about yourself as you can. We are open to a man or a woman, gay or straight for short or long term– just the summer is okay and the room should be available by April 1st or the 15th. The house is just up from the 77 bus which can get you to the redline in 20 min (porter) it is also just 1/4 mile to route 2, great location for a summer student or boston professional. 21 ashland st. at appelton google map yahoo map cats are OK - purr dogs are OK - woof Location: Arlington Heights

Brigham Circle Mission Hill
Roommates wanted. $550/mo. 1st, last and security. Pets welcome. Large porch. 1 yr lease. 617-872-4741. Ask for Pat.

DRACUT
Near UMASS Lowell N Campus. Sincere Bi-Div-W Male looking for m/f for roommate. 2 bed condo with fully furnished bedroom to rent queensized bed & TV. Asking $725 per month includes all utility & cleaning service. Note-this is not a personal ad, this is a place for you to live. Ask for Dennis. Cell 978-902-1140.

Medford
House to share. $400 month includes utils. Washer/ Dryer, some storage, on-street parking. Public Transportation. Avail 4/15. Bruce 781-488-3262

NEED A ROOMMATE FAST?
Looking for a room or have an extra room in boston that you need to rent out. Give us a call today at 617-261-9913.

NEED A ROOMMATE FAST?
Looking for a room or roommate in the boston area fast? Just give us a call at (617)261-9913 TODAY.

NEED A ROOMMATE IN BOSTON?
Need a room or have an extra room you need to rent out? Call us at 888-418-8141.

One bedroom$1000 per month
Need a roommate April to August in awesome Downtown apt I am looking to sublet a room in my great apartment on the edge of the Boston Commons. I am moving to Japan in April and want to leave my present roommate a great new person. He is happy to live with almost anyone. The location is amazing!! It is on the edge of Charles Street in Beacon Hill, 2 houses from the Commons. You can easily get to the red or green line T stations. You will be about a 10-15 walk from most of downtown (Gov Center, Downtown Crossing, North End, Fenway, ..) Its really central. Plus, the apartment is very big for Beacon Hill. Rent: $1000 a month (includes heat and hot water) Dates: April 1st - August 31st Extras: There is furniture and a matress that can be purchased at a low cost as well. Please call us 201-845-7300

Quincy
Spacish 2 br apt. in 2 family house. Hardwood floors, eat in kitchen, central air, coin op. w/ d, storage in basement. Avail May 1st. $1600 plus security. Call 617-847-1448.

Randolph Roomate Wanted
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West Newton
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Rooms Wanted

$665 per month One bedroom
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LEGAL NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division
Docket No: 06P2007GI

In the Matter of CHIN SOU LAM
Of ALLSTON
In the County of SUFFOLK

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MENTALLY ILL PERSON

To CHIN SOU LAM of ALLSTON in the County of SUFFOLK, her spouse, and heirs apparent or presumptive, a petition has been filed in the above captioned matter alleging that said CHIN SOU LAM of ALLSTON in the County of SUFFOLK is a mentally ill person and praying that or some other suitable person be appointed guardian, to serve without surety of the person and property.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT BOSTON ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON May 10, 2007.

WITNESS, HON. JOHN M. SMOOT, ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at BOSTON this day, March 1, 2007.

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				2	16	7	10	22	7	8	25	
	19		17		1		22		8		7	
3	24	8	14	11	1		7	18	13	7	21	
	8		24		20		21		24		21	
1	13	25	1	17	9		21	9	13	9	25	
4		26		21		7			21		14	
14	9	16	15	14	24		19	13	26	1	1	21
11		1				6		1		17		7
12	14	8	14	21		7	11	12	21	7	11	
1		9		14		21		15		3		
16	14	5	1	16		14	8	7	11	9	13	
7		7		23		25		12		14		
7	8	3	7	14	23	1	16					

Each of the 26 letters of the alphabet is represented in this grid by a number between 1 and 26. Using letter frequency, word-pattern recognition, and the numbers as your guides, fill in the grid with well-known English words. Only lowercase, un-hyphenated words are allowed, so you won't see anything like "Stockholm" or "long-lost" here. Now solve!!

_COMPILED BY BEN RICHARDSON

Flashbacks

5 YEARS AGO

SCARED STRAIGHT

MARCH 29, 2002 | **MICHAEL BRONSKI NOTED A PROVOCATIVE REMARK ROSIE O'DONNELL HAD MADE ABOUT HER CHILDREN'S SEXUAL PREFERENCE.**

"Her view on the futures of her adopted kids — Parker, six; Chelsea, four; and Blake, two — was even more disconcerting. 'I think life is easier if you're straight,' she said. 'I hope that they [the kids] are genuinely happy, whatever they are. But if I could pick, would I rather have my children have to go through the struggles of being gay in America, or being heterosexual? I would say heterosexual.'"

15 YEARS AGO

PRODUCT PLACEMENT

MARCH 27, 1992 | **RIC KAHN REPORTED ON A SERIOUSLY CORNY MARKETING STUNT.**

"If this sounds like public-relations puff masquerading as educational discourse, it should: the teaching kit — entitled 'Kernals of Knowledge' — was written and distributed to teachers by a major marketing company . . . that was in the employ of Orville Redenbacher's.

"Thus were science, math, language-arts, and social-studies curriculums infused with such essentials as an exercise on weights and measures that utilized a bag of Orville Redenbacher's Gourmet Microwave Popping Corn (provided gratis by the popcorn people) and a lesson in perseverance that told how Orville Redenbacher beat the naysayers who said his hybrid experiments were a waste of time because consumers would never pay more money for a high-quality popcorn . . ."

25 YEARS AGO

TAKING SIDES

MARCH 30, 1982 | **RENÉE LOTH RECOUNTED A TENSE CONVERSATION IN THE STATE HOUSE.**

"Former Middlesex County Sheriff John Buckley, a leading opponent of capital punishment in Massachusetts, chanced to cross paths recently at the State House with Edward Hanley, a close friend of Governor Edward J. King, who was then his secretary of administration and finance. Hanley asked Buckley whom he was supporting in the race for governor this year. Buckley, himself a Republican candidate for governor in 1978, said he'd probably support Michael Dukakis. 'So,' Buckley recalls Hanley replying, 'you're with the abortionist?' . . . Buckley considered a moment, and then asked, 'Well, who are you with — the executioner?'"

35 YEARS AGO

LICENSE TO SPY

MARCH 28, 1972 | **BO BURLINGHAM WARILY EXPLAINED NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN DOMESTIC SURVEILLANCE.**

"In recent arguments before the Supreme Court, the Justice Department has given hints it plans a quantum leap in the amount of electronic surveillance of domestic political activities. As yet no public outcry is evident.

"Specifically, the Nixon administration is asking the high court to sanction its policy of tapping telephones for 'national security' reasons without a warrant. While five previous administrations have carried on similar activities, never before has a president asked judicial approval of this practice . . ."

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Moon signs

_BY SYMBOLINE DAI

Last week and this week bring an unusual transit: Mars/Uranus conjunct in Aquarius. If you heard some great and/or crazy new ideas, you're in tune with the planets. Taking action to improve electrical/communication equipment and to "bring people together" is highly favored. Otherwise, this weekend brings the full moon (this month is the "Planter's Moon"). So, moonwise, you reap in two weeks what you sow this weekend.

THURSDAY MARCH 29

Waxing moon in Leo; moon VOC 9:24 to 11:27 pm. No mystery about where the wild things are — fire-sign moons bring out the beast. Taurus and Scorpio could be uncomfortable if others presume to know their business, but Libra and Gemini are cooking with gas. Leo, romance could be awkward, but connecting with friends is a comfort — especially if they pick up the tab.

FRIDAY MARCH 30

Waxing moon in Virgo. Cleaning up is a theme, and this is a fine day for a functional haircut or putting those figures through a fine mesh. Virgo, indulge in luxury (Venus's influence), but be aware that Mercury could make you tongue-tied. Pisces may be restless yet yearning for the same-old comforts of home. Taurus and Capricorn, it's a plan-the-garden day.

SATURDAY MARCH 31

Waxing moon in Virgo. If you're going on a date with someone who's usually a little bit picky, expect lots more kvetching than you may have patience to hear. With an imminent full moon, cranked-up hyperactivity could be the theme; still, it's a great weekend for cleaning. Virgo, do what you want, not what you think others expect. Sagittarius, you're not at your best, give yourself a break.

SUNDAY APRIL 1

Waxing moon in Libra; moon VOC 9:37 to 11:43 am. All the arts are highlighted today; and creativity is enhanced for Libra, Aquarius, and Gemini (June 10–12, twins could be prone to exaggeration, however). Great day for staying in touch with peers and partners, also for "chatting up" new folks. Capricorn, Cancer, and Aries, if you're not hearing what you thought you needed to hear, move on.

MONDAY APRIL 2

Full moon in Libra. Neediness abounds, although many (water?) signs could be exhausted from "too much, too soon" activities this weekend. Air signs and Aries and Leo, should move forward to develop projects and expand a base of operations. Bring others into the fold. Libra should be forthright, but don't undercut your message with excessive "niceness."

TUESDAY APRIL 3

Waning moon in Libra; moon VOC 10:30 pm to 12:35 am. A yen for beauty could surprise those who usually don't stop and smell the roses. Cosmetics and treatments are a lovely idea, particularly for Taurus, who craves a fresh new look for spring (up to a point; here's a sign that can keep the same hairstyle for decades). Libra, this week, romance is awkward for all, thanks to Venus and Mars making difficult angles to one another. Make allowances for those who need.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 4

Waning moon in Scorpio. Great time to plan a garden, or to cut to the chase. Leo could be impatient with everything today and tomorrow. If you're dealing with a lion, bring a chair. Scorpio, Venus isn't smiling at you, nor is Mars; so if you're impatient or dissatisfied in a relationship, I give you permission to rationalize bad behavior!

MOON KEYS

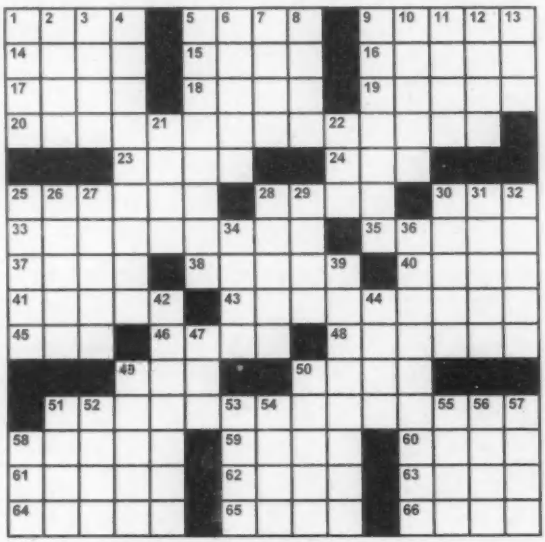
This horoscope traces the passage of the moon, not the sun. Simply read from day to day to watch the moon's influence as it moves through the signs of the zodiac. | When the moon is in your sun sign, you are beginning a new 28-day emotional cycle, and you can expect increased insight and emotionality. When the moon moves into the sun sign opposite yours (see below), expect to have difficulties dealing with the opposite sex, family, or authority figures, social or romantic activities will not be at their best. | When the moon is in Aries, it opposes Libra, and vice versa. Other oppositions are Taurus/Scorpio, Gemini/ Sagittarius, Cancer/Capricorn, Leo/Aquarius, and Virgo/Pisces. The moon stays in each sign approximately two and a half days. | As the moon moves between signs, it will sometimes become "void of course," making no major angles to planets. Consider this a null time and try to avoid making or implementing decisions if you can. But it's great for brainstorming. | For Symboline Dai's sun-sign horoscopes and advice column, visit our Web site at www.thePhoenix.com.

Symboline Dai can be reached at sally@moonsigns.net.

Jonesin'

_BY MATT JONES

"SOY WHAT?" — I'm just bean crazy, that's all.



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ACROSS

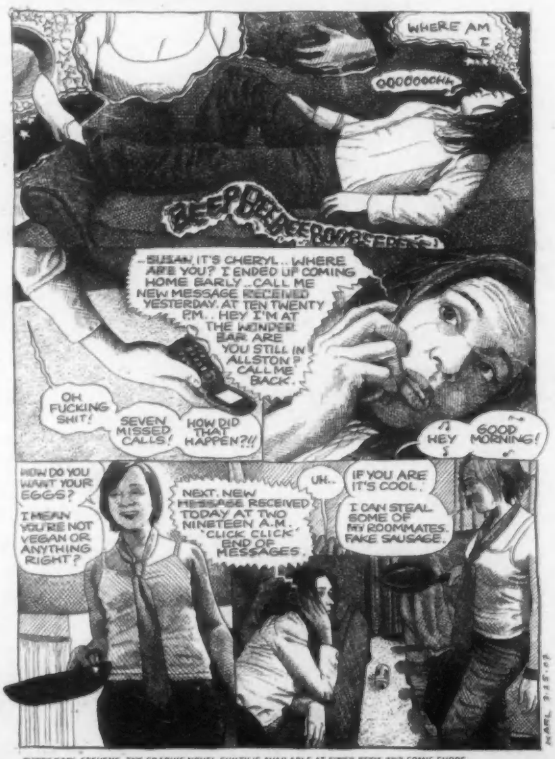
1 Blitzer on TV
5 ___-swapping
9 Crappy grade
14 Et ___ (and others)
15 They want to hurt Hertz
16 "___ on Jeopardy" (Weird Al Yankovic parody)
17 React to a punch
18 Pre-euro currency
19 Office department
20 Comment after pissing off a soy-based soup?
23 Furnished feet
24 Ma who says "maa"
25 "___ Fink"
28 "I agree"
30 AMA members
33 With 43-across, The Main Ingredient's soy curd refrain?
35 "Wintry mix" stuff
37 Taylor of "The Notorious Bettie Page"
38 Short letter signoff
40 VH1's "Best Week ___"
41 Gives audible approval
43 See 33-across
45 Barn bed
46 Hang in there
48 Scholastic do-over
49 French electronic group with the 2007 album "Pocket Symphony"
50 Daffy Duck exclamation
51 Fits of rage after not getting enough soybeans?
58 Do a janitor's job
59 The masculine side
60 Org. that gives G's and R's
61 Get up
62 Car deodorizer scent
63 Abbr. on envelopes
64 More pleasant
65 Manning and more
66 Observe

DOWN

1 Cautious
2 Muffin spread
3 "In ___ of flowers..."
4 Old educational visual medium
5 Dionne Warwick song that says "Foolish pride is all that I have left"
6 Like Harvard's walls
7 John Grisham novel, with "The"
8 Mr. Morales
9 Cuts off completely, maybe
10 Ex-CIA agent Valerie
11 Kinks title
12 Played for a tool
13 Lines on some maps: abbr.
21 "Hey, sailor!"
22 Meet a bet
25 Be rude at the table
26 Spanish province near Madrid
27 Pass news along
28 What "X" may mean
29 Gore Vidal novel "___ Breckinridge"
30 1990s R&B act Bell Biv ___
31 Coral masses
32 Walk like a pimp
34 "I screwed up"
36 Worldwide Pants Incorporated owner
39 Junkie's injectors
42 "Cinderella" item
44 Australian mo. for Father's Day
47 Exist
49 Make happy
50 Singer whose last name is Chrysomallis
51 "Actress" Spelling
52 Of grand proportions
53 Don't believe it
54 Comet part
55 Plotting
56 Olympic swimmer Biondi
57 All there
58 Word after straight or iron

Whatever

_BY KARL STEVENS


WHERE AM I
OOOOOOOH
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
SUSAN IT'S CHERYL... WHERE ARE YOU? I ENDED UP COMING HOME EARLY...CALL ME NEW MESSAGE RECEIVED YESTERDAY AT TEN TWENTY P.M. HEY I'M AT THE WONDER BAR ARE YOU STILL IN ALLSTON? CALL ME BACK.
OH FUCKING SHIT!
SEVEN MISSED CALLS!
HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?!!
HEY
GOOD MORNING!
HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR EGGS?
I MEAN YOU'RE NOT VEGAN OR ANYTHING RIGHT?
NEXT: NEW MESSAGE RECEIVED TODAY AT TWO NINETEEN A.M. "CLICK CLICK" END OF MESSAGES.
UH...
IF YOU ARE IT'S COOL.
I CAN STEAL SOME OF MY ROOMMATES FAKE SAUSAGE.
KARL STEVENS

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>SLOPESTYLE IN THE LOWER NORTH SLOPE TERRAIN PARK
(REGISTRATION> 8AM - 10AM IN THE DEN/ $15 EVENT FEE TO BE DONATED TO B4BC)

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